Lesson 30
Sentence Fragments

A **sentence fragment** is an incomplete sentence. It may lack a subject, a verb, or both. Alternatively, it may be a subordinate clause that cannot stand alone. Correct it by adding the missing phrase or words.

Although the road stops. (fragment)
Although the road stops here, we can travel farther on foot. (sentence)

**Exercise 1** Write **frag.** next to each sentence fragment. Write **S** next to each complete sentence.

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1. Samuel Clemens became one of the best-loved American storytellers.
2. Because Misha had an innovative style.
3. Works from charcoals to watercolors to pastels.
4. Nancy, feeling that her ideas were unpopular, kept them to herself.
5. By distancing herself from historians, biographers, and critics.
6. In his paintings, David has developed a very individual style.
7. A concept that became apparent in 1915.
8. I’d like to study at the Art Institute of Chicago or the Arts Students League in New York.
9. Willie Stieglitz, a promoter and art exhibitor.
10. Come in.
11. Whom he later called to apologize.
12. Myriads of flowers, some from her well-manicured gardens.
13. Appeared in the mid-1920s.
14. Many clothing designs have been influenced by the American Southwest landscape.
16. Establishing herself as the authority on short story writing.
17. Just give it a tweak and it’ll come on.
18. Long-stemmed purple irises rising from their beds.
19. Her perfume lingered in the air, revealing her recent presence.
Lesson 31
Run-on Sentences

A run-on sentence contains two or more complete sentences written as one. To correct a run-on sentence, separate the main clauses with either an end mark, a semicolon, or a comma and a coordinating conjunction.

Incorrect: There was a mistake on our bill, the server took care of it. (two main clauses separated by just a comma)

Incorrect: There was a mistake on our bill the server took care of it. (two main clauses with no punctuation between them)

Correct: There was a mistake on our bill. The server took care of it.

Correct: There was a mistake on our bill; the server took care of it.

Correct: There was a mistake on our bill, but the server took care of it.

**Exercise 1** Write run-on next to each run-on sentence.

1. The performance left the audience cold and several asked for a ticket refund.
2. The Pulitzer awards were established by the powerful publisher Joseph Pulitzer.
3. Garnet owned several first-edition books she bought one in a yard sale.
4. A severe financial panic and depression hit the United States in 1837.
5. Do you think rust protection for a new car is worth the added expense?
6. Communication involves sending and receiving information.
7. Wireless TV systems are competing with cable systems and I say it’s about time that we have a choice.
8. Scientists from Japan, Italy, and the United States designed the particle accelerator used at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Illinois.
9. I think we should do something about the overgrown playground on Third Street it presents a danger to the community.
10. Look at this fossil I bought at the gift shop in the Museum of Natural History.
11. Have you ever tried floating in ocean water the high salt content acts as a buoy.
12. Boston’s Tremont House, built in the 1800s, is credited by some as the first modern hotel.
13. Samuel Morse is known for his contribution to telegraphy but did you know that he also was the first U.S. citizen to own a camera, an 1839 daguerreotype from Paris.