

Correcting Sentence Fragments and Run-ons

Just because a group of words begins with a capital letter and ends with a period doesn't mean it's a complete sentence. Sometimes what appears to be a sentence is actually a sentence fragment or a run-on sentence.

Remember that a simple sentence has a subject and a predicate. A **sentence fragment** is missing one or both of these.

Example: Likes running through the field on summer mornings. (missing subject)

Example: Our energetic dog Pepper. (missing predicate)

Example: Sometimes on summer mornings. (missing subject and predicate)

A **run-on sentence** is two or more sentences that run together without proper punctuation. Often you cannot tell where one thought ends and the next begins.

Example: Sometimes on summer mornings our energetic dog Pepper likes running through the fields he loves to play fetch.

Each of the following groups of words is either a sentence fragment or a run-on sentence. Write F on the line before each fragment, and R on the line before each run-on. Make each group of words into one or more complete sentences by adding information to the fragments and splitting the run-ons into separate sentences.

1. ____ The sound of loud music.

2. ____ My friend Matt plays the guitar he's really good at playing the electric guitar.

3. ____ Jordan is a great singer someday I think she'll be in a famous band.

4. ____ Marching onto the football field in their colorful uniforms.

5. ____ Drums are my favorite instrument Mom won't let me practice in the house.

6. ____ My favorite bands Upside Down, Crying Babies, and Speed Readers.

7. ____ Back in the "olden days" when my parents were teenagers.
