

Fix It Fast – Fix It Right



Sentence Fragment: *A group of words that lacks a subject or predicate or does not express a complete thought, creating a sentence error.*

- If the fragment is a phrase, you can correct it by *combining it with a related sentence*.

During lunch today. I would like to talk about the plans for a panel discussion.

During lunch today I would like to talk about plans for a panel discussion.
(prepositional phrase)

- If the fragment is a subordinate clause, you can correct it by *combining it with a related sentence*.

Before you apply to all those colleges. You should think more about your career goals.

Before you apply to all those colleges, you should think more about your career goals.
(subordinate clause)

She wasn't in shape for the race. **Which she had hoped to win.**

She wasn't in shape for the race, which she had hoped to win.
(subordinate clause)

- Some fragments require *additions or rewording* to make them complete sentences

The ocean, sparkling under the noonday sun. (Where's the predicate?)

The ocean sparkled under the noonday sun. (See the subject and predicate?)
(complete sentence)

Over for Run-ons →

Run-on Sentence: ***Two or more separate sentences written as one sentence.***

Example: The bridge over the river is closed, a ferry will take you to the other side.

There are five (5) ways to correct a run-on sentence:

Separate it into two (2) sentences:

The bridge over the river is closed. A ferry will take you to the other side.

Join the independent clauses with a comma and a coordinating conjunction:

The bridge over the river is closed, **but** a ferry will take you to the other side.

Join the independent clauses with a semicolon:

The bridge over the river is closed; a ferry will take you to the other side.

Turn one of the independent clauses into a subordinate clause and add a subordinating conjunction or a relative pronoun:

Because the bridge over the river is closed, a ferry will take you to the other side.

Join the independent clauses with a semicolon and a conjunctive adverb such as *also, thus,* or *however*.

The bridge over the river is closed; **however**, a ferry will take you to the other side.

NOTES: