

Sentence Fragments

DEFINITION: Sentence fragments are pieces of sentences that are missing either a main subject or a verb.

IDENTIFY AND UNDERLINE THE FRAGMENTS BELOW.

1. Ultimately, I could not meet my professor's expectations for the course. Stubbornly disengaging from class discussions and refusing to complete course readings.
2. Even if Kinkadee's paintings are idyllic creations with no reference to past or present reality. Kinkadee developed a method to visually represent nostalgia in a way that appeals to his viewers.
3. Particularly cold Arctic and Antarctic winds evaporating water molecules in ocean water. Leaving highly concentrated salt water behind.

HAVING TROUBLE? If you cannot identify which groups of words are fragments, reviewing independent and dependent clauses will help you better identify fragments.

Understanding Independent and Dependent Clauses

DEFINITION: A clause contains a subject and a verb, but not all clauses can stand alone. There are two types of clauses: independent clauses and dependent clauses.

IDENTIFY WHICH CLAUSES ARE INDEPENDENT AND WHICH ARE DEPENDENT:

1. She is a hardworking individual.
A. Independent
B. Dependent
2. Although we never confirmed the date.
A. Independent
B. Dependent
3. Once the media picks up on this story.
A. Independent
B. Dependent

HAVING TROUBLE? Let's take a closer look at independent and dependent clauses.

DEFINITION: An independent clause contains a subject and a verb and can stand alone as a sentence.

EXAMPLE: I think we should try that new Thai restaurant tonight.

TO JOIN TWO INDEPENDENT CLAUSES, USE A COMMA AND A COORDINATING CONJUNCTION.

EXAMPLE: I think we should try that new Thai restaurant tonight, and I'll buy your meal.

EXERCISE: Add a coordinating conjunction and a comma to combine these independent clauses.

1. My mother-in-

THE SUBJECT OF THE SENTENCE IS THE PERSON, PLACE, THING, OR IDEA THAT IS DOING OR BEING SOMETHING.

THE SUBJECTS IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES ARE UNDERLINED:

My mother won the lottery.

After midnight, he falls asleep.

My favorite animal

Snoring softly, the baby smiled.

After the dinner party, the three friends visited Ashley.

Why should students pay the consequences for legislators' irresponsible decisions?