

COMPLETE SENTENCES, FRAGMENTS, AND COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS

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Elements of a Complete Sentence

A complete sentence requires 3 elements:

1. A subject
2. A verb,
3. A complete thought

Sentence: Joe will attend the concert.

Sentence: Chaos reigned.

Sentence: Chatting with her friends is my mother's favorite pastime.

Subjects and Verbs

The **subject** of a sentence is *who or what the sentence is about*. It performs an action or is identified or described by a linking verb.

Joe slept.

Kayaking on the big river is exciting.

A **verb** is a word used to show an action or to indicate a state of being.

Joe and Jamie purchased a new car.

The car is red.

Sentence Fragments

If a group of words lacks a subject, a verb, or a complete thought, it is not a complete sentence. It's called a fragment.

A **sentence fragment** is a group of words that is not a complete sentence.

FRAGMENT: The quarterback near the 10-yard line.

FRAGMENT: Shifted into lower gear.

FRAGMENT: Because I really enjoy football.

Common Word Errors

<p>to- expressing motion, used with verbs</p> <p>too- in greater degree, also</p> <p>two- the number 2</p>	<p>I went to the store to see Jermaine.</p> <p>John was too tired to help us paint.</p> <p>There are two students fighting in the hall.</p>
<p>their- possessive</p> <p>they're- contraction of they and are</p> <p>there- a location or place</p>	<p>Joe and Lisa don't know I spoke with their mother.</p> <p>They're not very happy with me.</p> <p>Her car is over there.</p>
<p>your- possessive</p> <p>you're- contraction of you and are</p>	<p>Your mother is sick.</p> <p>You're going to be in trouble if you don't stop.</p>
<p>its- possessive</p> <p>it's- possessive of it and is</p>	<p>The car lost its wheel.</p> <p>It's time to leave.</p>
<p>hear- to listen with the ears</p> <p>here- the place where you are</p>	<p>Did you hear the directions?</p> <p>Here is your homework.</p>
<p>fewer- used with things that <i>can</i> be counted</p> <p>less- used with things that <i>can't</i> be counted</p>	<p>Fewer people are at this concert.</p> <p>Less intelligence is needed to read this book.</p>

Grammar 1, Practice A

1. Name the 3 elements of a complete sentence:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

Identify each of the word groups below as a sentence (S) or fragment (F).

2. Brought his dog to the park with him. _____
3. The wind whistled. _____
4. A strange man over there in the corner of the park. _____
5. My sister and I are both avid readers. _____
6. Because I am sick of listening to your complaining. _____
7. I cried. _____
8. Although I enjoy baseball. _____
9. Steve is amazing. _____
10. Hoping that Janet's surgery will go well. _____
11. When I get a chance to speak with your father, I will tell him about your behavior. _____

Choose the correct word from the parentheses.

12. Those (to too two) girls would like (to too two) visit the museum, (to too two).
13. I do not know what (their they're there) going to do when they discover that (their they're there) luggage is no longer (their they're there).
14. Do you think (your you're) mom will care if (your you're) out past midnight?
15. This establishment has been found guilty of breaking health code; don't you think (its it's) time to revoke (its it's) license?
16. I wanted to (hear here) what he had to say, so I moved over (hear here).
17. Mrs. Hewitt put (fewer less) thought into this lesson than usual.
18. There are (fewer less) animals in this zoo than I expected.
19. (Fewer Less) students signed up for football this year.

The sentence below contains common word and apostrophe errors. Find and correct them.

20. I would have come to you're party, but I wasnt sure how too get their.

Grammar 1, Practice B

1. Name the 3 elements of a complete sentence:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

Make the following fragments into sentences.

2. Before I went to the baseball game.
3. The man standing in the back of the train station.
4. Because Joe is a great athlete.
5. The old shed in the back of the neighbor's yard.
6. The teacher said.
7. On my way.

Identify each of the word groups below as a sentence (S) or a fragment (F).

8. Invented the game of basketball. _____
9. The car at the back of the parking lot. _____
10. Luisa slept. _____
11. If I speak to Tom. _____
12. The weather is beautiful. _____

The sentences below contain common word and apostrophe errors. Find and correct them.

13. Its difficult to here the coachs' instructions. I wish their were less players hear.
14. So far, Jan and Michael have had fewer time than expected to closely examine the houses'. There hoping to discover any flaws before buying the properties.
15. I was to far away from the stage to here you're speech.

Grammar 1, Independent Practice C

Directions: Determine whether each word group is a sentence (S) or fragment (F). **If it is a fragment, make it into a complete sentence.**

1. While I was shopping at the local supermarket. _____

2. My mother and I met at the restaurant. _____

3. Although I hate having to work later than 7:00. _____

4. To impress the new professor. _____

5. Before a test, I try to get plenty of sleep. _____

6. Staring out of the window above the kitchen sink. _____

7. Up late, I decided to call my friend in California. _____

8. Dreaming of a bigger house with a garden and room for an office. _____

9. Especially old movies starring Cary Grant or Humphrey Bogart. _____

10. To get to the library by bus. _____

Circle the correct word from the parentheses.

11. (Your, you're) mom is mad at me because of (you're, your) grades.
12. (There, their, they're) is a big party tonight.
13. Thor and Captain America need to take responsibility for (There, their, they're) actions.
14. I have to tell Mr. Smith that (There, their, they're) fighting!
15. Mrs. Hewitt gives (fewer, less) work than Mrs. Mangum.
16. I have 15 items or (fewer, less), so I'm going through the self-checkout.
17. I cannot (hear, here) what you're saying.
18. Is the bus coming (hear, here)?
19. There is (too, to, two) much violence in America.
20. My mom has (too, to, two) kids.
21. I have (too, to, two) go (too, to, two) the store.

Grammar 1, Practice A KEY

1. Name the 3 elements of a complete sentence:
 - a. **subject**
 - b. **verb**
 - c. **Complete thought**

Identify each of the word groups below as a sentence (S) or fragment (F).

2. Brought his dog to the park with him. **F**
3. The wind whistled. **S**
4. A strange man over there in the corner of the park. **F**
5. My sister and I are both avid readers. **S**
6. Because I am sick of listening to your complaining. **F**
7. I cried. **S**
8. Although I enjoy baseball. **F**
9. Steve is amazing. **S**
10. Hoping that Janet's surgery will go well. **F**
11. When I get a chance to speak with your father, I will tell him about your behavior. **S**

Choose the correct word from the parentheses.

12. Those (**two**) girls would like (**to**) visit the museum, (**too**).
13. I do not know what (**they're**) going to do when they discover that (**their**) luggage is no longer (**there**).
14. Do you think (your) mom will care if (you're) out past midnight?
15. This establishment has been found guilty of breaking health code; don't you think (**it's**) time to revoke (**its**) license?
16. I wanted to (**hear**) what he had to say, so I moved over (**here**).
17. Mrs. Hewitt put (**less**) thought into this lesson than usual.
18. There are (**fewer**) animals in this zoo than I expected.
19. (**Fewer**) students signed up for football this year.

The sentence below contains common word and apostrophe errors. Find and correct them.

20. I would have come to **your** party, but I **wasn't** sure how **to** get **there**.

Grammar 1, Practice B KEY

8. Name the 3 elements of a complete sentence:

- a. **subject**
- b. **verb**
- c. **Complete thought**

Make the following fragments into sentences.

9. Before I went to the baseball game, **I ate a hotdog.** (answers will vary)
10. The man standing in the back of the train station **is creepy.** (answers will vary)
11. Because Joe is a great athlete, **he eats healthy foods.** (answers will vary)
12. The old shed in the back of the neighbor's yard **is run down.** (answers will vary)
13. The teacher said **not to talk.** (answers will vary)
14. **I am on my way.** (answers will vary)

Identify each of the word groups below as a sentence (S) or a fragment (F).

13. Invented the game of basketball. **f**
14. The car at the back of the parking lot. **f**
15. Luisa slept. **s**
16. If I speak to Tom. **f**
17. The weather is beautiful. **s**

The sentences below contain common word and apostrophe errors. Find and correct them.

16. **It's** difficult to **hear** the coach's instructions. I wish **there** were **fewer** players **here**.
17. So far, Jan and Michael have had **less** time than expected to closely examine the houses[**remove apostrophe**]. **They're** hoping to discover any flaws before buying the properties.
18. I was **too** far away from the stage to **hear your** speech.

Grammar 1, Independent Practice C KEY

Directions: Determine whether each word group is a sentence (S) or fragment (F). **If it is a fragment, make it into a complete sentence.**

11. While I was shopping at the local supermarket. F; answers will vary
12. My mother and I met at the restaurant.S
13. Although I hate having to work later than 7:00.F; answers will vary
14. To impress the new professor.F; answers will vary
15. Before a test, I try to get plenty of sleep.S
16. Staring out of the window above the kitchen sink.F; answers will vary
17. Up late, I decided to call my friend in California.S
18. Dreaming of a bigger house with a garden and room for an office. F; answers will vary
19. Especially old movies starring Cary Grant or Humphrey Bogart. F; answers will vary
- 20.To get to the library by bus. F; answers will vary

Circle the correct word from the parentheses.

22. (Your, you're) mom is mad at me because of (you're, your) grades.
23. (There, their, they're) is a big party tonight.
- 24.Thor and Captain America need to take responsibility for (There, their, they're) actions.
25. I have to tell Mr. Smith that (There, their, they're) fighting!
26. Mrs. Hewitt gives (fewer, less) work than Mrs. Mangum.
27. I have 15 items or (fewer, less), so I'm going through the self-checkout.
28. I cannot (hear, here) what you're saying.
29. Is the bus coming (hear, here)?
30. There is (too, to, two) much violence in America.
31. My mom has (too, to, two) kids.
32. I have (too, to, two) go (too, to, two) the store.