

# Fragments and Run-On Sentences

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

A complete sentence has a subject and a verb and tells a full idea. A fragment is missing a part. A run-on jams two complete sentences together with no punctuation OR with only a comma (comma splice).

## PRACTICE

Decide whether each example is a fragment, a run-on, or a complete sentence — and for fix-it items, choose the BEST correction.

- Which best describes this group of words? Ran all the way home.
  - fragment
  - run-on
  - complete sentence
  - compound sentence
- Which best describes this group of words? I love pizza my brother loves tacos.
  - fragment
  - run-on
  - complete sentence
  - compound sentence
- Which best describes this group of words? The yellow bus stopped at the corner.
  - fragment
  - run-on
  - complete sentence
  - comma splice
- Which best describes this group of words? Because she forgot her lunch.
  - complete sentence
  - run-on
  - compound sentence
  - fragment



- 5. Which is the BEST fix for this run-on? It rained all day we played inside.
  - A. It rained all day we, played inside.
  - B. It rained all day, we played inside.
  - C. It rained all day, so we played inside.
  - D. It rained all day so, we played inside.
- 6. Which is the BEST fix for this fragment? The shiny new bike in the garage.
  - A. The shiny new bike in the garage!
  - B. The shiny new bike, in the garage.
  - C. The shiny new bike in the garage, is mine.
  - D. The shiny new bike in the garage is mine.
- 7. Which is the BEST fix for this run-on? Liam likes math Mia likes science.
  - A. Liam likes math, Mia likes science.
  - B. Liam likes math; Mia likes science.
  - C. Liam likes math Mia, likes science.
  - D. Liam likes, math Mia likes science.
- 8. True or False: 'After the long, rainy weekend.' is a complete sentence.  
**T / F**
- 9. Which group of words is a complete sentence?
  - A. The kite soared above the trees.
  - B. Sitting on the cold bench all afternoon.
  - C. Because of the strong wind.
  - D. Before lunch, after the bell.
- 10. Rewrite this run-on as TWO complete sentences: My dog barks all night I cannot sleep.

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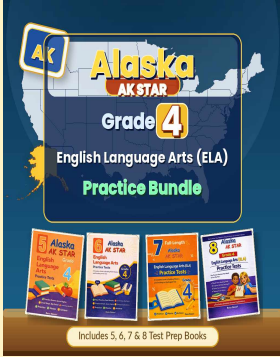
## Answer Keys

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| Explanations    |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>1. A</b>     | There is a verb (ran) but NO subject — who ran? It is a fragment. It is not a run-on (only one clause), not complete (missing subject), and not compound (no two independent clauses joined).   |
| <b>2. B</b>     | Two complete sentences are jammed together with no punctuation = run-on. A fragment is missing a part; a compound sentence would have a comma + conjunction ('I love pizza, but my brother loves tacos').   |
| <b>3. C</b>     | Subject = 'bus', verb = 'stopped', full idea = complete sentence. Nothing is missing (not a fragment); only one clause (not a run-on or comma splice).  |
| <b>4. D</b>     | 'Because' starts a DEPENDENT clause. A dependent clause cannot stand alone — it is a fragment. It is not complete (no main clause), not a run-on (only one clause), and not compound (no second independent clause).  |
| <b>5. C</b>     | Two independent clauses joined by comma + conjunction ('so') = correct compound sentence. A inserts a comma in the wrong place; B leaves a comma splice (comma alone cannot join two complete sentences); D puts the comma after 'so' instead of before it.   |
| <b>6. D</b>     | The original is missing a main verb. D adds 'is mine' — a verb plus complete idea. A only adds punctuation (still no verb). B inserts an unneeded comma (still no verb). C adds a verb but ALSO an extra comma between the subject and the verb (over-correction).  |
| <b>7. B</b>     | A semicolon joins two CLOSELY RELATED complete sentences. A is a comma splice (comma alone is not strong enough). C and D place the comma in the wrong spot and still leave a run-on.   |
| <b>8. False</b> | It is a fragment — it has no main subject and verb telling what happened after the weekend.   |
| <b>9. A</b>     | A has a subject (kite) and a verb (soared) and tells a full idea. B has no subject; C is a dependent prepositional phrase, no main verb; D is just two prepositional phrases — no subject or verb.  |
| <b>10.</b>      | <b>Answer:</b> My dog barks all night. I cannot sleep.<br>Accept any split that produces two complete sentences with a period and a capital letter (e.g. 'My dog barks all night. I cannot sleep.'). Mark wrong: a comma splice ('barks all night, I cannot sleep'); leaving the run-on as is; combining into one sentence with no fix. |



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