

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.



Answer Keys

- 1 A B C D
- 2 A B C D
- 3 A B C D
- 4 A B C D
- 5 A B C D

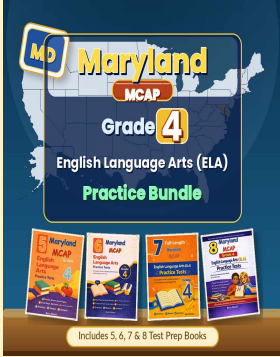
- 6 A B C D
- 7 A B C D
- 8 T F
- 9 A B C D
- 10

Explanations

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. A | 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). |
| 2. 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'). |
| 3. C | Subject = 'bus', verb = 'stopped', full idea = complete sentence. Nothing is missing (not a fragment); only one clause (not a run-on or comma splice). |
| 4. D | '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). |
| 5. C | 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. |
| 6. D | 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). |
| 7. 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. |
| 8. False | It is a fragment — it has no main subject and verb telling what happened after the weekend. |
| 9. A | 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. |
| 10. | Answer: My dog barks all night. I cannot sleep. 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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