

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

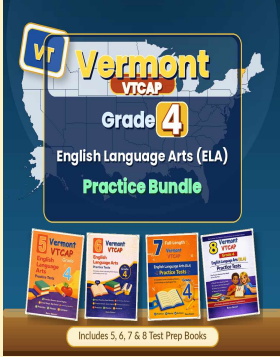
- 6 A B C D
- 7 A B C D
- 8 T F
- 9 A B C D
- 10

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.



Want Even More Practice? Check Out Our Other Vermont VTCAP ELA Test Books!




Includes 5, 6, 7 & 8 Test Prep Books

Vermont VTCAP Grade 4 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

No repeated questions — maximum practice value!

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼



SCAN ME

Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books

26 Tests!
4 Books
One Bundle

Important: All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

<h4>5 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations ✓ Perfect foundation for VTCAP ELA prep ✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills ✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards <p>Start your practice journey!</p>	<h4>6 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations ✓ Unique tests — different from the 5 tests book ✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests ✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards <p>Take your practice to the next level!</p>	<h4>7 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation ✓ Unique tests — different from 5 and 6 tests books ✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice ✓ Aligned to Grade 4 VTCAP ELA standards <p>Maximum preparation power!</p>	<h4>8 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book ✓ Unique tests — different from 5, 6 and 7 books ✓ Great for final review before test day ✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence <p>Be fully prepared!</p>
---	--	---	---

Get the bundle at [EffortlessMath.com](https://www.EffortlessMath.com) — scan the QR code above to open the product page.