

## Understanding The Sentence: Fragments

- Turn to page 4 in your *Holt Handbook*. Take notes and fill in the blanks as you go.

In writing at school it is almost always best to use complete sentences. They help make your meaning clear to the reader.

1A. A *sentence* is a word group that contains a subject and a verb and that expresses a complete thought

A sentence should begin with a capital letter and ends with a period

Example: Sean was chosen captain of his soccer team.

A *sentence fragment* is a word group that looks like a sentence but **DOES NOT** contain

<sup>both</sup> a subject and a verb OR DOES NOT express a complete thought.

Now look at the examples below and fill in the corrected sentences.

Sentence Fragment: Was a well-known ragtime pianist. (This group of words has a verb (Was), but the subject is missing. Who was well-known pianist? )

Rewrite the correct sentence: Scott Joplin was a well-known ragtime pianist.

Sentence Fragment: A butterfly with bright blue wings and long antennae. (This group of words has a subject (butterfly) but the verb is missing. What did the butterfly do?)

Rewrite the correct sentence: A butterfly with bright blue wings and long antennae landed.

Sentence Fragment: Even though she had worked a long time. (This group of words has a subject (she) and a verb (had worked), but it does not express a complete thought. What happened even though she had worked a long time?)

Rewrite the correct sentence: Louise Nevelson had not completed the sculpture even though she had not worked on it a long time.

Turn to pg. 5 and COMPLETE Exercise 1 1-6. Write C for complete sentence. Write F for sentence fragment.

1. C

3. C

5. C

2. F

4. F

6. F

# Understanding The Sentence: Simple Sentence

140-141

- Turn to pages 141-142 in your Holt Handbook. Take notes and fill in the blanks as you go.

7A. A simple sentence contains one <sup>S</sup> independent clause <sup>V</sup> and no subordinate clauses.

Examples: The hairstylist gave Latrice a new look.

Ernst has volunteered to organize the recycling campaign.

A simple sentence may contain a compound subject, a compound verb, and any number of phrases.

Label the examples for its subject(s) and verb(s).

Beth Holden and Sheila Young won Olympic medals. (compound subjects)

Lawrence caught the ball but then dropped it. (compound verb)

The astronomer and her assistant studied the meteor and wrote reports. (compound subjects and verbs)

Answers will vary.

**PRACTICE: Compose one sentence imitating the structure of each of the following sentences.**

1. (single subject and single verb)

Example: Bob rode his bicycle all summer.

Your own:

2. (compound subject and single verb)

Example: My dog and cat play together.

Your own:

3. (single subject and compound verb)

Your own:

4. (compound subject and compound verb)

Your own: