

COMMON SENTENCE ERRORS

FIVE PARTS OF A GOOD SENTENCE:

1. Subject
2. Verb
3. Capital letter at the beginning
4. End punctuation
5. Complete thought

FRAGMENTS

A sentence fragment is a sentence that is missing one or more of the parts required in a good sentence. Generally, this means that the sentence is missing the subject and/or verb or does not contain a complete thought. Correct a sentence fragment by adding the missing information.

Fragment: Agreeing or disagreeing with the speaker's statements.

Correction: Whether they agreed or disagreed with the speaker's statements, Paul and Jodie both felt they benefited from attending the conference.

COMMA SPLICES

A comma splice occurs when two independent clauses are joined with a comma. Correct this type of error by using a comma + conjunction, a semicolon, or a period.

Comma splice: The train stops here, it is always late.

Corrections: The train stops here, but it is always late.
The train stops here; it is always late.
The train stops here. It is always late.

RUN-ONS

A run-on occurs when one sentence runs into another one. To correct a run-on, consider using a comma + conjunction, a semicolon, or a period.

Run-On: I like rock music I don't like jazz.

Corrections: I like rock music, but I don't like jazz.
I like rock music; I don't like jazz.
I like rock music. I don't like jazz.