

Complete Sentences

Every sentence has to hold a complete thought.

There are two parts to every complete sentence.

One part tells who or what the sentence is about. It names something or someone.

The other part tells us the action of or information about the someone or something.

Doug was hiking through the forest.

This is a complete sentence. “*Doug*” is who the sentence is about, and “*was hiking through the forest*” tells us what he is doing.

If you do not have both pieces of a sentence, the sentence is not complete, it is just one piece. This piece is called a **fragment**.

Read the phrases below and write a "C" in the blank if it is a complete sentence and an "F" in the blank if it is just a sentence fragment.

_____ My mom was the youngest.

_____ Had fifteen pairs of shoes.

_____ His friend was home at last.

_____ Baskets to the craft show.

_____ The rest of the day the wind.

_____ We laughed and had a fun day.

_____ The worst trip.

This passage from *Little Women* has some complete sentences and some sentence fragments. Complete each sentence fragment by choosing a word or words from the box that will make the sentence whole and drawing a line to where it belongs. Make sure the sentences all make sense when you are done!

The March girls went to a New Year's party. Had on a blue dress. Jo looked pretty in red. Beth had on green, and Amy looked grand in her gold dress. At the party, Jo talked to Laurie Laurence most of the night. Laurie lived in the house next to them with his grandfather, Mr. Laurence. Had lots of money.

Days later, Jo. She stopped outside the Laurence home. Laurie was looking out his window. He opened the window and called to Jo. He said to come in. Mrs. March said she could go to see Laurie.

Jo ran to the house. She had never been in a house this big or grand. With a stone face showed Jo into the living room.

Meg	They
was out walking	A man

There are a few different kinds of sentences. Every sentence has to begin with a capital letter, but not all sentences end the same!

TELLING SENTENCES tell you something. These sentences end with a period.

The geese were flying south.

ASKING SENTENCES ask a question. These sentences end with a question mark.

Why did the dogs chase the car?

EXCLAMATORY SENTENCES show strong feelings or emotions. These sentences end with an exclamation point.

I won the prize!

Capitalize the first letter of each sentence and add the correct ending punctuation. Make sure and use all three kinds of ending punctuation.

one day it was very hot

i named my caterpillar Mr. Bully

where did she go

mom finally said I could have a pet

the chairs matched our table

suddenly, the shadow moved

are you eating a piece of candy

Edit this passage from *White Fang* by adding the correct ending punctuation and putting in capital letters where they are missing. The " / " shows you where a new sentence begins. If you are having a hard time deciding which ending punctuation to use, try reading the passage out loud. Sometimes this makes it easier to tell what kinds of sentences they are. You should find places for one question mark, one exclamation point and two periods.

White Fang was very happy. / he loved his new master. / Everything was going just fine / Then, one day, Weedon didn't come home. / He didn't come home the next day, or the day after that. / white Fang was unhappy. / Where could Weedon be /

At last, Weedon came back. / he had been on a long trip to California. / How happy White Fang was / He ran to meet Weedon. / He started eating again, and soon he was better /