Fragments

What is a fragment? A fragment is a sentence that expresses an incomplete thought.

There are a few kinds of fragments:

1. The “missing subject” fragment tells us something is happening, but the sentence doesn’t say who or what is doing the action, like this:
   Trying to see the craters on the moon.

2. The “added detail” fragment occurs when a sentence begins with a transition, gives us an example about something, and then stops, like this:
   Such as craters.

3. The “to” fragment occurs when a sentence starts with a “to” verb, but doesn’t finish the thought, like this:
   To see the craters on the moon.

4. The “dependent clause” fragment is a sentence that has a subject and a verb, but the thought isn’t complete, like this:
   When the boy squinted into the telescope.

The way to fix a fragment is simple. Just connect the fragment to the sentence that comes before or after it, and helps it to make sense, like this:

   The boy looked into the telescope, trying to see the craters on the moon.

Or add the missing information:

   The boy is trying to see the craters on the moon.

Tips to Remember: Fragments are incomplete sentences that don’t make sense on their own. They can be fixed easily by using a comma to connect them to an existing sentence that makes them complete or by providing the missing information.

Still have questions? Come see us – SWC L401