

Fragments – Exercise 1

This handout accompanies Exercise 1 of *Grammar Bytes!* Get the answers by doing the interactive version of the exercise at this address: <http://chompchomp.com/exercises.htm>

Directions: Read each short passage that follows. Determine which part is the fragment

1. ^A Maria wasn't watching her plate of barbecue very carefully. ^B So Santana, the family beagle, snatched a chicken leg hanging over the edge. ^C As baked beans and potato salad slid onto Maria's new sandals.
2. ^A Ever since Andre peeked at Melissa's paper during the biology exam. ^B Guilt has consumed him. ^C Even the blueberries floating in his cereal bowl seem like the accusing eyes of Dr. Gregory, his microbiology instructor.
3. ^A James opened the door of his cluttered refrigerator. ^B Which caused a pint of blueberries to fall to the floor. ^C The fruit bounced and rolled everywhere in an explosion of indigo.
4. ^A Richie loves to walk his friends' dogs at Lake Eola Park. ^B For example, Kim's Labrador retriever Murphy or Gary's bulldog Kembo. ^C Beautiful women, Richie has learned, gravitate toward guys with cute dogs.
5. ^A Head down, Lela stared at the textbook on her desk. ^B She understood the fragment practice that Mrs. Markham was going over in class. ^C But was too shy to raise her hand and volunteer an answer.
6. ^A Joshua found the pressure from the gas in his stomach unbearable. ^B Although he didn't want to be rude in the middle of geology class. ^C An explosive belch erupted from his mouth.
7. ^A Phillip left work early. ^B To memorize the vocabulary that his Spanish midterm would test the next day. ^C But all that he could think about was Beatrice, the cute new sales associate who worked in the camera department.
8. ^A Chewing the dry, tough, whole-grain bread bought from the health food store. ^B Lorena tried to enjoy her lunch. ^C Fantasizing about a juicy cheeseburger on a soft white bun didn't improve the taste of the soy product sandwiched between leaves of organic lettuce.

9. ^A My cat Fuzz loves to sleep in inconvenient places. ^B Lately she prefers the computer table.
^C Where her long hair sticks to the mouse pad, covers the keyboard, and clings to the screen of the monitor.
10. ^A Rocking and thrashing like a wild horse that cowboys had lassoed. ^B The washer complained about its overloaded tub. ^C At the other end of the laundromat, Bobby quietly read an old magazine, pretending that it was not his machine.
11. ^A Day after day, thunderclouds rolled in during the early afternoon. ^B Making Madison's grass thrive from all of the water. ^C Her neighbors, however, prayed for a sunny afternoon so that Madison could finally mow the jungle that was the front yard.
12. ^A While cleaning under his bed, Glen heard the vacuum cleaner suck up something hard and metallic. ^B Glen wanted to know what the object was. ^C But had no intention of digging through a bag of dust, dead bugs, cat litter, and bathroom hair to find out.
13. ^A Farah woke Kirby, the family's ancient German shepherd. ^B To see if he had fallen asleep on the remote control. ^C The growl that Kirby rumbled in protest convinced Farah to use the channel buttons on the front of the television instead.
14. ^A Raja knew that his roommate Tina had cupcakes hidden in the apartment. ^B He looked everywhere. ^C Including in the clothes hamper, on top of the bookcases, behind the sofa—even under his own bed!—all to no avail.
15. ^A Peering around the other students in line, Sylvia tried to see the lunch choices. ^B The cafeteria selections were disappointing. ^C For example, greasy fried chicken, soupy sweet-sour pork, and a gray mystery meat floating in translucent, lumpy gravy.
16. ^A Struggling up three flights of stairs, her arms filled with the heavy texts for four classes, her backpack loaded with notebooks and other supplies. ^B Jamala huffed and puffed. ^C Never again would she register for all of her classes back-to-back on the same days of the week.
17. ^A As quietly as possible, Sherri tried to open the one-pound bag of candy on her lap. ^B Finally, the tough plastic split open. ^C Causing an explosion of chocolate balls that bounced and rolled down the aisles of Dr. Wilson's chemistry class.
18. ^A Each morning when Helene is fixing her hair in the bathroom. ^B She applies many sticky hair products. ^C During a typical day, she catches more bugs in her coif than most spiders manage to land in their webs in a week.

19. ^A Ralph spent all of his savings on a diamond ring to give to his girlfriend Melanie. ^B A greedy young woman who had a box full of expensive trinkets from ex-boyfriends. ^C Melanie was always looking for the man with the fattest wallet.
20. ^A Emily pounded on the bedroom door, demanding a little quiet so that she could study for her physics midterm. ^B Her sister Amy ignored the request. ^C And continued banging on the drum set that she bought at a garage sale.



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