# FRAGMENT TIP 2



## Recognize the type of fragment you have found.

#### Subordinate Clause Fragment

A subordinate clause fragment follows this pattern:

Subordinate Conjunction + Subject + Verb  $\neq$  Complete Thought

These words will begin a subordinate clause fragment:

| after<br>although<br>as<br>because<br>before<br>even if<br>even though<br>if<br>in order that | once<br>provided that<br>since<br>so [ <i>that</i> implied]<br>so that<br>than<br>that<br>though | unless<br>until<br>when<br>whenever<br>where whereas<br>wherever<br>whether | which<br>whichever<br>while<br>who<br>whoever<br>whom<br>whomever<br>whose |
|---|--|---|--|
|---|--|---|--|

**Examples:** After the football flew over the fence. Since Harold has not done laundry. Which gave Gabriella indigestion.

#### Participle Phrase Fragment

A participle phrase fragment follows this pattern:

Present participles end in *ing*: *splashing*, *sneezing*, *spying*, *slurping*, etc. *Regular* past participles end in *ed*: *splashed*, *sneezed*, *spied*, *slurped*, etc. *Irregular* past participles do *not* have a consistent ending: *sung*, *swum*, *shrunk*, *slept*, etc.

**Examples:** Agonizing over an ice cream flavor. Tickled silly with an ostrich plume. Found under the backseat of his truck.

#### Infinitive Phrase Fragment

All infinitives are **to + verb**. An infinitive phrase fragment follows this pattern:

Word(s), Phrase(s), and/or Clause(s) ≠ Infinitive + Complete Thought

**Examples:** To sleep without anxiety. To dance until he was out of breath. To slither out of its cage and across the bedroom floor.

### Afterthought Fragment

An afterthought fragment follows this pattern:

Afterthought Transition + Details 
$$\neq$$
 Complete Thought

The transitions below often begin a fragment of this type:

| especially<br>except<br>excluding | for example<br>for instance | including<br>like<br>such as |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|

**Examples:** For example, coffee stained shirts and scuffed shoes. Such as the old man who yelled at dog walkers and skateboarders. Like this brand-new twenty-dollar bill that I found.

#### Lonely Verb Fragment

A lonely verb fragment follows this pattern:



A lonely verb fragment will often begin with a coordinating conjunction: and, but, for, or, nor, so, or yet.

**Examples:** And burped with satisfaction. But turned down the job. Or will accept the bad grade.

#### Appositive Fragment

An appositive fragment follows this pattern:



**Examples:** The student slurping the hot soup. A young woman whose hair reaches her waist. The brother with a reputation for trouble.

