

Fragments – Exercise 2

This handout accompanies Exercise 2 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 While Cynthia dressed for her sister's wedding, Murphy, the golden retriever, ate the straps off the only shoes that matched Cynthia's pale blue dress. ^B Her replacement options were inappropriate. ^C Like rubber flip-flops, running shoes, fuzzy pink rabbit slippers, or brown leather pumps.
2. ^A When Will stepped out of the shower, he panicked. ^B Realizing that all of his underwear was still in the washing machine. ^C Damp jockey shorts were not a good way to start his day.
3. ^A Joey idolizes his older brother David. ^B Combing his hair in the style that David wears, drinking coffee black with five sugars, and giving teachers the same lame excuses for late homework. ^C As a consequence, everyone calls Joey "David" by mistake!
4. ^A While thunder boomed in the distance, Margaret started off on her daily five-mile run.
 ^B Confident that she had plenty of time before the storm arrived. ^C Wet hair and clothes plastered to her body proved that she couldn't outpace Mother Nature.
5. ^A Whenever Coach Moody sees behavior that she doesn't like—either on or off the court.
 ^B The members of the girls' basketball team pay during the next practice. ^C When Frankie was caught smooching her boyfriend Larry in the hallway, everyone had to run two extra miles that afternoon.
6. ^A Making his anxious students relax would have required very little effort. ^B Like a smile when he walked into class or a "Good job" written at the bottom of an essay. ^C Professor Marshall refused to do more than scowl and read from his yellowed lecture notes.
7. ^A Marcus has no consideration for the ecosystem rich with life in his backyard. ^B When he cuts the lawn, he slows for nothing. ^C As toads, lizards, and insects jump to the sanctuary of bushes to avoid the deadly mower blades.
8. ^A Each morning, Darren adds guava juice, raw egg, protein powder, raisins, and sardines to a blender. ^B After mixing these ingredients on high for a few seconds, he has breakfast. ^C A drink that will give him plenty of energy and shiny hair.

9. ^A Horrified, Sherri stared at her reflection in the mirror. ^B Hair sticking out in seventeen different directions, a spot of whipped cream on her chin, and a green pen mark across her nose. ^C Why hadn't her friends at the table mentioned her disarray?
10. ^A Lying awake in the dark room, staring up at the shadows that danced across the ceiling. ^B Jason worried about the shuffling and thumps that he heard outside. ^C Raccoons—not hungry zombies with grabbing arms—were prowling behind the house.
11. ^A Like amber honey, Helene's long hair dripped over her shoulders and spilled down her back. ^B Styling products, moreover, made the tresses as sticky as pancake syrup. ^C Catching pieces of thread, feathers, dust, and even an occasional insect that buzzed too close.
12. ^A While eating the plate of sesame chicken, Maria was thankful for her skill with chopsticks. ^B Eating utensils that required only one hand to use. ^C For Maria's left hand was pinned to the booth by Hunter, her five-year-old son who lay sleeping after a long day of shopping at the mall.
13. ^A To stay awake for a long evening of chemistry homework. ^B Beth made a huge pot of coffee. ^C Unfortunately, her heart beat so fast and her legs jiggled so violently that the poor girl couldn't concentrate.
14. ^A Diane picked at the slice of cheesecake with her car keys. ^B While Nick sucked whipped cream off his fingers. ^C Horrified, Rachel watched her roommates decimate the dessert that she had spent three hours preparing.
15. ^A Cringing with anxiety at the grade that she might find. ^B Nancy peeked at the last page of the essay. ^C The big red A sent waves of relief radiating through her body.
16. ^A Jonathon often tries to shock his English teacher, Mrs. Mauzy, with weird paper topics. ^B Such as eating tarantulas or wearing women's underwear. ^C Mrs. Mauzy remains nonplussed, scandalized only by the number of fragments in Jonathon's essays.
17. ^A To save enough money to pay tuition, Tanisha keeps a strict budget. ^B She never carries more than three dollars in her wallet. ^C To avoid making impulse purchases like a pizza or CD that will cause her to come up short when registration begins.
18. ^A To keep the cat from sleeping on her new convertible's canvas top. ^B Kim leaves the garden hose out. ^C Like a gunslinger in a Western, she "duels" with Rocky, the family's orange tom, who hisses as vehemently as the forceful spray of water.

19. ^A Dr. Gregory surveyed the auditorium full of nervous, sweating biochemistry students. ^B Her gaze often stopped on Bryan. ^C Whose test anxiety manifested in the loud popping of his knuckles and the high-speed bouncing of his left leg.
20. ^A To save money on a haircut that he badly needed. ^B Raja let Tina, his roommate and an aspiring stylist, trim his shaggy head. ^C Honestly, a blender or a weed whacker could have done a better job!



chompchomp.com

©1997 - 2014 by Robin L. Simmons
All Rights Reserved.