

Unit 1 — The Sentence IV Identifying Fragments

MONTANA LANGUAGE ARTS WRITING CONTENT STANDARD I, BENCHMARK 4; STANDARD II, BENCHMARK 4;

- ✓ A sentence expresses a complete thought. Sentences have a subject and a predicate.
Phillis Wheatley was an African-American poet.
 - ✓ **Fragments:** Not all groups of words that have a subject and verb express a complete thought. The following example has a subject and a verb, but to be a complete sentence it needs to be added to an independent clause.
Because the test is tomorrow
 - ✓ Correcting **fragments** usually means connecting it to a larger sentence.
*We will study for a couple of hours tonight, **because the test is tomorrow.***
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Exercise 1

In the space before each group of words, write **S** if it is a **sentence**; write **F** if it is a **fragment**.

1. ____ Harriet Beecher Stowe was born June 11, 1811.
2. ____ She was a famous abolitionist and a writer of more than ten books.
3. ____ The most famous being *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.
4. ____ It describes the dismal life and deplorable living conditions of slaves.
5. ____ Where Harriet, expressing her outrage at the institution of slavery in the United States.
6. ____ Exposed its harmful effects on both whites and blacks.
7. ____ Which was first published in serial form from 1851 to 1852.
8. ____ Harriet was the daughter of the abolitionist Lyman Beecher.
9. ____ When her family moved to Cincinnati in 1832.
10. ____ The Underground Railroad providing a secret means for fleeing African-American slaves.
11. ____ Harriet and her family were directly involved in the Underground Railroad's activities.
12. ____ Calvin and Harriet's home in Ohio was a "station" along the Underground Railroad's route to freedom in Canada.
13. ____ Many of the stories told in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* come from real-life stories which she heard first hand from escaping slaves.
14. ____ Relating these stories for her readers to become aware of the shameful treatment of slaves.
15. ____ Although the book was a national best-seller.
16. ____ Harriet and her family, who were deeply religious.
17. ____ Harriet's book had an incredible political impact on the United States.
18. ____ When Abraham Lincoln met Harriet Beecher Stowe.
19. ____ Our 16th President called her "the little woman who wrote the book that started this great war!"
20. ____ Referring to the Civil War, which was being fought to end the institution of slavery in the United States.

Exercise 2 On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph using all the sentences from **Exercise 1** in which you correct each **fragment**. Some **fragments** can be combined with the sentence next to them to make sense; others will need words added to them to make them complete.