*Sentence Fragments*

A complete sentence begins with a capital letter, ends with a punctuation, possesses a subject and a verb, and expresses a complete thought. A group of words that does not contain all of these things is called a sentence fragment.

Ex: In the house by the sea.

Ex: Although Susan could see the birds.

The examples above are missing some of the elements needed to make them complete sentences. Therefore, they are fragments.

Exercise A: Below are 10 groups of words. If the words in each group make up a complete sentence, capitalize and punctuate the sentence accordingly and write “complete sentence” on the line. If, however, the group of words does not make up a complete sentence, write “fragment” next to it.

1. the sheep are asleep \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. after they flew away \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. listening to the bees FRAGMENT
4. our dog sniffed the air \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. when an elephant eats many \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Exercise B: Add what is needed to the fragments from exercise A to make them complete sentences.

3. I’m listening to the bees.

Exercise C: Compose three sentences of your own. *Make sure that each one contains a capital letter, a punctuation mark at the end, a subject, a verb, and a complete thought.*