

Complete Sentences

A complete sentence has to have a complete thought.

Every complete sentence has two parts.

One part of a complete sentence tells us who or what the sentence is about.

The other part of the sentence tells us about the person or thing or what they did.

The snowman.

>

Began to melt.

This tells us *who or what*, but it does

This tells us *what happened*, but NOT

NOT tell us what happened.

who or what it happened to.

Neither of the above phrases are complete sentences. They are **fragments**, which means that they are only parts of sentences. If you put them together, then they make a complete sentence.

The snowman began to melt.

Now it is a complete sentence. It tells us both *who* and *what happened*. **Read each sentence below. If it is a complete sentence, write a “C” in the blank. If it is just a fragment, write an “F” in the blank.**

Was on the counter. _____

Did not want to shop. _____

My gray cat sat up. _____

Jeff was very excited. _____

Came running quickly. _____

She left a nice tip. _____

**Read each sentence carefully in this passage from *The Prince and the Pauper*.
Look for both parts in each sentence. If it is a complete sentence, leave it as it
is. If it is only a sentence fragment, underline it. You should find four sentence
fragments.**

Young Tom did not go to school. Showed him how to read and write.
Father Andrew told wonderful stories too, all about kings and princes.

Tom wished he had fine, clean clothes like a prince. There was one
thing he. His big wish was to see the prince with his own eyes.

One day, Tom. Suddenly, he saw a great gate of gold. Then he saw
something that almost made him shout. It was a boy dressed in shiny
clothes, with a long feather in his cap. Tom's eyes were big with wonder.
Must be a prince.

Just then, one of the guards at the gate pulled Tom away.

Now that you have practiced complete sentences, you need to know about the different kinds of sentences. Each one has a different kind of ending punctuation.

TELLING SENTENCES simply tell you something. They end with a period.

My dad talked to the carpenter.

EXCLAMATORY SENTENCES show strong feeling or emotion. They end with an exclamation point.

I heard my friend shout, "Oh, no!"

ASKING SENTENCES ask a question. They end with a question mark.

What could I give?

ALL sentences begin with a capital letter. It does not matter what kind of sentence it is, it always begins with a capital.

Read the sentences below. Capitalize the first letter of each sentence and add the right ending punctuation. To make it easier, read the sentences out loud.

she packed up two boxes before going to bed

what time are we leaving

he heard a truck drive by

I won a million dollars

Read through this passage from *Romeo and Juliet*. Add capital letters and ending punctuation where they are missing. You should find places for two exclamation points, two question marks, and a period. The “ / ” shows you where each sentence ends and a new one begins.

romeo wants to find out who this beautiful girl is. / He finds Nurse, one of Juliet's servants / He asks Nurse who Juliet's father is. / When he hears, he can't believe it / Juliet is the daughter of his father's enemy! / What will he do /

The party comes to an end. / Juliet stands with Nurse. / she wants the name of that man in the mask. / Nurse will find out. / in a little while, Nurse returns. / She tells Juliet he is Romeo, the only son of Montague, her father's enemy. / Juliet cannot believe it / What will she do /