

FRAGMENTS – EXERCISE 1

Directions: Read each short passage that follows. Determine which part is the fragment. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. (A) Maria wasn't watching her plate of barbecue very carefully. (B) So Santana, the family beagle, snatched a chicken leg hanging over the edge. (C) As baked beans and potato salad slid onto Maria's new sandals.
2. (A) Ever since Andre peeked at Melissa's paper during the biology exam. (B) Guilt has consumed him. (C) Even the blueberries floating in his cereal bowl seem like the accusing eyes of Dr. Gregory, his microbiology instructor.
3. (A) James opened the door of his cluttered refrigerator. (B) Which caused a pint of blueberries to fall to the floor. (C) The fruit bounced and rolled everywhere in an explosion of indigo.
4. (A) Richie loves to walk his friends' dogs at Lake Eola Park. (B) For example, Kim's Labrador retriever Murphy or Gary's bulldog Kembo. (C) Beautiful women, Richie has learned, gravitate toward guys with cute dogs.
5. (A) Head down, Lela stared at the textbook on her desk. (B) She understood the fragment practice that Mrs. Markham was going over in class. (C) But was too shy to raise her hand and volunteer an answer.
6. (A) Joshua found the pressure from the gas in his stomach unbearable. (B) Although he didn't want to be rude in the middle of geology class. (C) An explosive belch erupted from his mouth.

7. (A) Phillip left work early. (B) To memorize the vocabulary that his Spanish midterm would test the next day. (C) But all that he could think about was Beatrice, the cute new sales associate who worked in the camera department.
8. (A) Chewing the dry, tough, whole-grain bread bought from the health food store. (B) Lorena tried to enjoy her lunch. (C) Fantasizing about a juicy cheeseburger on a soft white bun didn't improve the taste of the soy product sandwiched between leaves of organic lettuce.
9. (A) My cat Fuzz loves to sleep in inconvenient places. (B) Lately she prefers the computer table. (C) Where her long hair sticks to the mouse pad, covers the keyboard, and clings to the screen of the monitor.
10. (A) Rocking and thrashing like a wild horse that cowboys had lassoed. (B) The washer complained about its overloaded tub. (C) At the other end of the Laundromat, Bobby quietly read an old magazine, pretending that it was not his machine.
11. (A) Day after day, thunderclouds rolled in during the early afternoon. (B) Making Madison's grass thrive from all of the water. (C) Her neighbors, however, prayed for a sunny afternoon so that Madison could finally mow the jungle that was the front yard.
12. (A) While cleaning under his bed, Glen heard the vacuum cleaner suck up something hard and metallic. (B) Glen wanted to know what the object was. (C) But had no intention of digging through a bag of dust, dead bugs, cat litter, and bathroom hair to find out.
13. (A) Farah woke Kirby, the family's ancient German shepherd. (B) To see if he had fallen asleep on the remote control. (C) The growl that Kirby rumbled in protest convinced Farah to use the channel buttons on the front of the television instead.

14. (A) Raja knew that his roommate Tina had cupcakes hidden in the apartment. (B) He looked everywhere. (C) Including in the clothes hamper, on top of the bookcases, behind the sofa—even under his own bed!—all to no avail.
15. (A) Peering around the other students in line, Sylvia tried to see the lunch choices. (B) The cafeteria selections were disappointing. (C) For example, greasy fried chicken, soupy sweet-n-sour pork, and a gray mystery meat floating in translucent, lumpy gravy.
16. (A) Struggling up three flights of stairs, her arms filled with the heavy texts for four classes, her backpack loaded with notebooks and other supplies. (B) Jamala huffed and puffed. (C) Never again would she register for all of her classes back-to-back on the same days of the week.
17. (A) As quietly as possible, Sherri tried to open the one-pound bag of candy on her lap. (B) Finally, the tough plastic split open. (C) Causing an explosion of chocolate balls that bounced and rolled down the aisles of Dr. Wilson's chemistry class.
18. (A) Each morning when Helene is fixing her hair in the bathroom. (B) She applies many sticky hair products. (C) During a typical day, she catches more bugs in her coif than most spiders manage to land in their webs in a week.
19. (A) Ralph spent all of his savings on a diamond ring to give to his girlfriend Melanie. (B) A greedy young woman who had a box full of expensive trinkets from ex-boyfriends. (C) Melanie was always looking for the man with the fattest wallet.
20. (A) Emily pounded on the bedroom door, demanding a little quiet so that she could study for her physics midterm. (B) Her sister Amy ignored the request. (C) And continued banging on the drum set that she bought at a garage sale.

