

# FRAGMENTS – EXERCISE 2

**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) 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 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 could not outpace Mother Nature.
5. (A) Whenever Coach Moody sees behavior that she does not 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 had her friends at the table not 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) 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 could hardly 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) Filled with anxiety for what grade 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 composition instructor with weird paper topics. (B) Such as eating tarantulas or wearing women's underwear. (C) Professor 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 T-shirt 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) Professor 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 desperately 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!

