

# FRAGMENT TIP 2

## Recognize the type of fragment you have found.

### SUBORDINATE CLAUSE FRAGMENT

A subordinate clause fragment follows this pattern:

**SUBORDINATING WORD** + **SUBJECT** + **VERB** ≠ **COMPLETE THOUGHT**

These words will begin a subordinate clause fragment:

SUBORDINATE CONJUNCTIONS		
after	in case	than
although	in that	that
as	in order that	though
as if	in so far as	till
as long as	just as	unless
as soon as	no matter how	until
as though	now that	when
because	once	whenever
before	provided that	where
even if	rather than	whereas
even though	since	wherever
how	so [ <i>that</i> implied]	whether
if	so that	while

RELATIVE PRONOUNS		
that	whichever	whom
what	who	whomever
whatever	whoever	whose
which		whosever

RELATIVE ADVERBS		
when	where	why

**Examples:**

*After* the football flew over the fence.

*Since* Harold has not done laundry.

*Which* gave Gabriella indigestion.

*Where* the cookies are hidden.

## **PARTICIPLE PHRASE FRAGMENT**

A participle phrase fragment follows this pattern:



Present participles end in *ing*: *splashing, sneezing, spying, slurping*, etc.

Regular past participles end in *ed*: *splashed, sneezed, spied, slurped*, etc.

Irregular past participles do not have a consistent ending: *sung, swum, shrunk, slept*, etc.

**Examples:**

*Agonizing* over an ice cream flavor.

*Tickled* silly with an ostrich plume.

*Found* under the backseat of his truck.

## **INFINITIVE PHRASE FRAGMENT**

All infinitives are **to + verb**. An infinitive phrase fragment follows this pattern:



**Examples:**

*To sleep* without anxiety.

*To dance* until he was out of breath.

*To slither* out of its cage and across the bedroom floor.

## AFTERTHOUGHT FRAGMENT

An afterthought fragment follows this pattern:

**AFTERTHOUGHT TRANSITION** + **DETAILS** ≠ **COMPLETE THOUGHT** .

The transitions below will begin this type of fragment:

AFTERTHOUGHT TRANSITIONS		
especially	for example	including
except	for instance	like
excluding		such as

### Examples:

*For example*, coffee stained shirts and scuffed shoes.

*Such as* the old man who yelled at dog walkers and skateboarders.

*Like* this brand-new twenty-dollar bill that I found.

## LONELY VERB FRAGMENT

A lonely verb fragment follows this pattern:

**VERB** + **WORD(S), PHRASE(S), AND/OR CLAUSE(S)** ≠ **COMPLETE THOUGHT** .

A lonely verb fragment will often begin with a coordinating conjunction: *and*, *but*, *for*, *or*, *nor*, *so*, or *yet*.

### Examples:

And *burped* with satisfaction.

But *turned* down the job.

Or *will accept* the bad grade.

## APPOSITIVE FRAGMENT

An appositive fragment follows this pattern:

**NOUN** + **WORD(S), PHRASE(S), AND/OR CLAUSE(S)** ≠ **COMPLETE**  
**THOUGHT** .

### Examples:

The *student* slurping the hot soup.

A young *woman* whose hair reaches her waist.

The *brother* with a reputation for trouble.

