



Sentence vs. Fragment

A **sentence** is a COMPLETE THOUGHT; and when you're done reading it, you feel SATISFIED.

A **fragment**, on the other hand, leaves you hanging—wondering “who” did “what” or “what about it?”

Directions: Read the groups of words below. Mark “S” if they're a sentence. Mark “F” if they're a fragment.

Part A

1. An important step in growing up is learning to accept imperfections in yourself and others.
2. Since no human being can be perfect.
3. My brother Luis has never learned this lesson.
4. Is quick to notice other people's faults.
5. He also extremely critical of himself.
6. After we tell Luis his carvings are great.
7. Replies that they are not really good enough.
8. The way that he sees them in his mind.
9. Because the carving on one bookend didn't match the other.
10. Threw them both out.
11. Made a wooden box but hid it because of a small scratch.
12. Luis is not happy much of the time.
13. Is a perfectionist overcome by unimportant flaws.
14. Luis miserable but doesn't need to be.
15. Should understand that even experts make mistakes.
16. The computer software designer whose program crashed.
17. The big-league pitcher who threw four straight balls to the weakest hitter on the other team.
18. The designer and the pitcher moved on.
19. If he could realize.
20. Should not be overwhelmed by minor shortcomings along the way.

Part B

1. Members of my family pursue interesting hobbies.
2. Enjoy collecting old books, growing rare flowers, and knitting hot pads.
3. Uncle Raymond writing and performing country music.
4. Carries his tape recorders everywhere.
5. First ideas just a word or phrase or part of a melody.
6. Always listens to country stations while driving to find out what kinds of songs are most popular.
7. Although only one of Raymond's songs has been on the charts.
8. Still spends most of his free time songwriting and cutting demos to send to recording studios.
9. Love the catchy melodies of his songs.
10. The family often asks Raymond to perform.
11. Brings his electric guitar and piles of sheet music.
12. Sometimes sing along and dance, and the time flies.
13. Helping Raymond make a demo at a recording studio, however, not always a pleasure.
14. Knowing exactly how the songs should sound.
15. Raymond often critical of session players, especially drummers.
16. He believes rhythm is key to the impact of a song.
17. Fresh word combinations very important, too.
18. Sometimes need to discuss Raymond's song in detail.
19. So all the musicians will be on the same wavelength.
20. When everything works together.