

Coached Example

Read the passage and answer the questions.

A scrawny stray dog was wandering through an alley when it came upon a rather fat and happy house dog playing in a yard. Spotting the stray, the house dog said, "You poor thing! Why are you out there, alone and hungry? Why do you not work steadily as I do, and have your meals provided for you regularly?"

"I'd love that," said the stray, "but I don't know how."

"All you need is a human. Come, I'm sure the family here would love to have you," the house dog replied. "Come around the side of the fence to the gate. I will bark so someone will come let you in."

As they walked, the stray noticed the collar around the house dog's neck. "Why do you wear that band around your neck? And why is there such a big fence around you?" it asked.

"Oh, that's my collar," the house dog answered. "They put it on me so they can chain me up, so I won't get away, and so they can find me if I do. That's why the fence is here, too, so I don't stray too far. That's all."

"Oh, is that all?" responded the stray. "Well then, I think I shall keep on moving along. Good day, my friend."



1. According to the housedog, what is one effect of wearing a collar?

- A. hunger
- B. loneliness
- C. embarrassment
- D. limited freedom

Hint The house dog explains several effects of wearing the collar to the stray dog.

2. The stray dog leaves because

- A. it enjoyed being hungry.
- B. it did not like the house dog.
- C. it would rather be free than fed.
- D. the house dog asked it to leave.

Hint The house dog's words have an effect on the stray.

Effective Sentence Structure

Getting the Idea

Sentence structure is the grammatical arrangement of words in a sentence. Each structure results in a different type of sentence. Read the chart below.

Sentence Type	Definition	Example
simple	a sentence consisting of one independent clause , or a clause that can stand on its own as a sentence	Talia is a great soccer player.
compound	a sentence consisting of two or more independent clauses, usually joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (<i>and, but, for, so, or, nor, yet</i>)	Talia is a great soccer player, but sometimes she makes mistakes on the field.
complex	a sentence consisting of one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses , sometimes joined by a subordinating conjunction (for example: <i>when, although, if, since, because, until</i>)	Talia sometimes makes mistakes because she tries too hard. Although Talia is a great soccer player, she makes mistakes.

A **sentence fragment** is an incomplete sentence punctuated as a complete sentence. Read the following examples:

Pam's inconsistent answers she was lying.

Realized Pam was lying.

Because Pam's answers were inconsistent.

To determine if a sentence is a fragment, ask yourself three questions. Does the sentence have a verb? The first sentence needs to tell what *inconsistent answers* does, for instance, *proved*. Does the sentence have a subject? The second sentence does not tell *who* realized Pam was lying. Does the sentence begin with a subordinating conjunction but not express a complete thought? The third sentence does not tell what happened *because* Pam's answers were inconsistent. Here is one way to revise the fragments above:

Because Pam's answers were inconsistent, Joel realized she was lying.

Thinking It Through 1

Read the following examples. Write them correctly on the lines provided. Add missing subjects or verbs and any other words necessary to correct the sentence fragments. If the sentence is correct, write "correct as is."

1. Starved Rock State Park a popular tourist attraction near Utica, Illinois.

Hint This sentence is missing a key part of speech.

2. If you spend inadequate time on your research project.

Hint The sentence leaves the reader wondering what will happen *if*.

3. Fulfilled the requirements of the course with remarkable ease.

4. Since you refuse to acknowledge that you may be incorrect in this matter.

5. Born in Galesburg, Illinois, George Ferris the amusement park attraction that bears his name.

6. Kwanzaa, an African American holiday, was created by Maulana Karenga in 1966.
