

## Fragments – Exercise 1

This handout accompanies Exercise 1 of **Grammar Bytes!** Get the answers by doing the interactive version of the exercise at this address: <http://chompchomp.com/exercises.htm>

**Directions:** Read each short passage that follows. Determine which part is the fragment

1. <sup>A</sup> Maria wasn't watching her plate of barbecue very carefully. <sup>B</sup> So Santana, the family beagle, snatched a chicken leg hanging over the edge. <sup>C</sup> As baked beans and potato salad slid onto Maria's new sandals.
2. <sup>A</sup> Ever since Andre peeked at Melissa's paper during the biology exam. <sup>B</sup> Guilt has consumed him. <sup>C</sup> Even the blueberries floating in his cereal bowl seem like the accusing eyes of Dr. Gregory, his microbiology instructor.
3. <sup>A</sup> James opened the door of his cluttered refrigerator. <sup>B</sup> Which caused a pint of blueberries to fall to the floor. <sup>C</sup> The fruit bounced and rolled everywhere in an explosion of indigo.
4. <sup>A</sup> Richie loves to walk his friends' dogs at Lake Eola Park. <sup>B</sup> For example, Kim's Labrador retriever Murphy or Gary's bulldog Kembo. <sup>C</sup> Beautiful women, Richie has learned, gravitate toward guys with cute dogs.
5. <sup>A</sup> Head down, Lela stared at the textbook on her desk. <sup>B</sup> She understood the fragment practice that Mrs. Markham was going over in class. <sup>C</sup> But was too shy to raise her hand and volunteer an answer.
6. <sup>A</sup> Joshua found the pressure from the gas in his stomach unbearable. <sup>B</sup> Although he didn't want to be rude in the middle of geology class. <sup>C</sup> An explosive belch erupted from his mouth.
7. <sup>A</sup> Phillip left work early. <sup>B</sup> To memorize the vocabulary that his Spanish midterm would test the next day. <sup>C</sup> But all that he could think about was Beatrice, the cute new sales associate who worked in the camera department.
8. <sup>A</sup> Chewing the dry, tough, whole-grain bread bought from the health food store. <sup>B</sup> Lorena tried to enjoy her lunch. <sup>C</sup> 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. <sup>A</sup> My cat Fuzz loves to sleep in inconvenient places. <sup>B</sup> Lately she prefers the computer table.  
<sup>C</sup> Where her long hair sticks to the mouse pad, covers the keyboard, and clings to the screen of the monitor.
10. <sup>A</sup> Rocking and thrashing like a wild horse that cowboys had lassoed. <sup>B</sup> The washer complained about its overloaded tub. <sup>C</sup> At the other end of the laundromat, Bobby quietly read an old magazine, pretending that it was not his machine.
11. <sup>A</sup> Day after day, thunderclouds rolled in during the early afternoon. <sup>B</sup> Making Madison's grass thrive from all of the water. <sup>C</sup> Her neighbors, however, prayed for a sunny afternoon so that Madison could finally mow the jungle that was the front yard.
12. <sup>A</sup> While cleaning under his bed, Glen heard the vacuum cleaner suck up something hard and metallic. <sup>B</sup> Glen wanted to know what the object was. <sup>C</sup> But had no intention of digging through a bag of dust, dead bugs, cat litter, and bathroom hair to find out.
13. <sup>A</sup> Farah woke Kirby, the family's ancient German shepherd. <sup>B</sup> To see if he had fallen asleep on the remote control. <sup>C</sup> The growl that Kirby rumbled in protest convinced Farah to use the channel buttons on the front of the television instead.
14. <sup>A</sup> Raja knew that his roommate Tina had cupcakes hidden in the apartment. <sup>B</sup> He looked everywhere. <sup>C</sup> Including in the clothes hamper, on top of the bookcases, behind the sofa—even under his own bed!—all to no avail.
15. <sup>A</sup> Peering around the other students in line, Sylvia tried to see the lunch choices. <sup>B</sup> The cafeteria selections were disappointing. <sup>C</sup> For example, greasy fried chicken, soupy sweet-n-sour pork, and a gray mystery meat floating in translucent, lumpy gravy.
16. <sup>A</sup> Struggling up three flights of stairs, her arms filled with the heavy texts for four classes, her backpack loaded with notebooks and other supplies. <sup>B</sup> Jamala huffed and puffed. <sup>C</sup> Never again would she register for all of her classes back-to-back on the same days of the week.
17. <sup>A</sup> As quietly as possible, Sherri tried to open the one-pound bag of candy on her lap. <sup>B</sup> Finally, the tough plastic split open. <sup>C</sup> Causing an explosion of chocolate balls that bounced and rolled down the aisles of Dr. Wilson's chemistry class.
18. <sup>A</sup> Each morning when Helene is fixing her hair in the bathroom. <sup>B</sup> She applies many sticky hair products. <sup>C</sup> During a typical day, she catches more bugs in her coif than most spiders manage to land in their webs in a week.

19. <sup>A</sup> Ralph spent all of his savings on a diamond ring to give to his girlfriend Melanie. <sup>B</sup> A greedy young woman who had a box full of expensive trinkets from ex-boyfriends. <sup>C</sup> Melanie was always looking for the man with the fattest wallet.
20. <sup>A</sup> Emily pounded on the bedroom door, demanding a little quiet so that she could study for her physics midterm. <sup>B</sup> Her sister Amy ignored the request. <sup>C</sup> And continued banging on the drum set that she bought at a garage sale.



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