

The Case of the Runaway Run-Ons

Grammar, Sentence Structure & Paragraph Structure

Name: _____ Date: _____

Circle the best answer for 1 and 2. Answer 3 in complete sentences.

1. Which is a fragment?

- (A) The dog barked.
- (B) Since the bus was late.
- (C) We ran home.
- (D) She smiled.

2. Which is a compound sentence?

- (A) I was hungry, so I made a sandwich.
- (B) Because I was hungry.
- (C) I made a sandwich.
- (D) When I was hungry, I ate.

Read: Student paragraph: "Dogs are the best pets. They are loyal they protect their families. For example, my dog barks when strangers come to the door. Cats sleep a lot. In conclusion, dogs are great pets."

3. Is this a well-structured paragraph? Identify one strength and one problem, and use evidence from the paragraph.

Use RACE: Restate, Answer, Cite, Explain.

The Case of the Runaway Run-Ons: Exit Ticket

Total: 5 points. Mastery: 4 or more.

#	Answer	Points
1	(B) Since the bus was late.	1 point
2	(A) I was hungry, so I made a sandwich.	1 point
3	Restate: The student's paragraph about dogs has a clear structure but needs two fixes. Answer: Its strength is a clear topic sentence and conclusion; its problems are a run-on sentence and an off-topic detail. Cite: It begins, "Dogs are the best pets," and ends, "In conclusion, dogs are great pets," but it includes "They are loyal they protect their families" and "Cats sleep a lot." Explain: The topic and concluding sentences frame one main idea, but the run-on needs punctuation ("They are loyal, and they protect their families"), and the sentence about cats should be removed because it does not support the main idea.	3 points: Names a strength (topic or concluding sentence); Identifies the run-on or off-topic sentence; Quotes the paragraph.