

Sentences and Sentence Fragments B

1a. A **sentence** is a word group that contains a subject and a verb and that expresses a complete thought.

A **sentence fragment** is a word group that looks like a sentence but does not contain both a subject and a verb or does not express a complete thought.

SENTENCE FRAGMENT Shirley Chisholm, the first African American congresswoman.

SENTENCE Shirley Chisholm, the first African American congresswoman, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1968.

EXERCISE Identify each of the following word groups as a sentence or a sentence fragment. On the line provided, write *S* for *sentence* or *F* for *sentence fragment*.

Example F 1. One clear night in the middle of summer.

_____ 1. Several teenagers went camping one clear night in the middle of summer.

_____ 2. The campers sat around a campfire.

_____ 3. Which kept them warm.

_____ 4. Someone suggested that they tell stories.

_____ 5. Camila told an interesting story.

_____ 6. About a man who lived on a houseboat near a village.

_____ 7. Never spoke to the villagers.

_____ 8. People thought he was a thief.

_____ 9. And blamed him when things were lost.

_____ 10. One day the man left the boat.

_____ 11. And walked far away.

_____ 12. A curious villager entered the boat.

_____ 13. To see what was inside.

_____ 14. Very surprised by what he found inside.

_____ 15. There were all kinds of wooden toys.

_____ 16. That the mysterious man had built.

_____ 17. Each toy was carefully painted.

_____ 18. The toys were gifts for the village children.

_____ 19. The villagers had misjudged the man.

_____ 20. Realized that the man was very kind and felt sorry.