

Checkouts (page 31)**Grammar SkillBuilder: Sentence Fragments**

Key Concept: Complete sentences best convey writers' thoughts and ideas. Occasionally, an experienced writer will use sentence fragments to create a casual, informal style.

Sentence Fragments

A **sentence fragment** may be missing the subject, the verb, or both.

Fragment: Another chance to say witty things to her.

The fragment lacks a subject and a verb. Notice how much clearer the fragment is when a subject and verb are added.

Sentence: He wanted another chance to say witty things to her.

Activity

Identify each item as a complete sentence or a sentence fragment. Rewrite each fragment as a complete sentence.

1. The boy noticed the girl with the bow in her hair.
2. A huge orange bow.
3. She noticed the boy, too.
4. Dropped the jar of mayonnaise.
5. Embarrassed, he missed his chance to speak to her.
6. Wanted to see him again.
7. Time passed.
8. Watching the doors, looking for the girl with the bow in her hair.
9. Finally, one day she.
10. Pretending to ignore her as he watched from the corner of his eye.
11. She avoided his checkout lane.
12. Hated herself for what she did.
13. Soon another boy came into her life.
14. Quit his job.
15. Crossing paths months later, they smiled at each other.