Fragments

Defined: a sentence that does not express a complete thought (or have a subject and a verb)

Most fragments can be fixed one of three ways:

1. A subject or verb can be added.

2. A fragment can be incorporated with an idea from another sentence

3. Attach the sentence fragment to another sentence. (before or after)

Fragment Examples:

1. Listening to the music.
2. The kitchen table.
3. So that drivers would be more careful.

Possible corrections:

1. Mark was listening to the music.
2. The kitchen table was covered with all his favorite foods.
3. The city posted a sign, so that drivers would be more careful.

Fragment practice: Fix these fragments using one of the three techniques above.

1. Her beautiful new sports car.
2. Serves no purpose.
3. The first mission to Pluto was launched in 2006. Will arrive in 2015.
4. The car ran out of gas. Stranding us in the middle of nowhere.

Answer Key:

1. Her beautiful new sports car is fire-engine red.
2. Crying over spilled milk serves no purpose.
3. The first mission to Pluto, launched in 2006, will arrive in 2015.
4. The car ran out of gas, stranding us in the middle of nowhere.