

## Sentence Fragments 1

A fragment is a group of words often mistaken for a sentence. A fragment is either a phrase or a dependent clause that looks or sounds like a sentence. Remember: A sentence contains a subject and a predicate and expresses a complete thought. Turn to page 558 in *Write Source*.

> **Complete Sentence:**  
The polar bear is a curious animal.

> **Fragments:**  
Can be quite a clown (subject missing)  
When the bear is safely confined (dependent clause, not a complete thought)  
Of captive bears exceeding 1,000 pounds (both subject and predicate missing)

**Identify** the following groups of words by writing **S** for sentence or **F** for fragment on the line before each. Put periods at the end of all sentences.

- S   1. The polar bear is a large carnivore that does not fear humans.
- \_\_\_ 2. Deliberately stalks and kills humans for food
- \_\_\_ 3. Has been called the "King of the North"
- \_\_\_ 4. When wounded, the polar bear can be a deadly adversary
- \_\_\_ 5. Covered 60 yards in a charge after being shot through the heart several times
- \_\_\_ 6. On the other hand, this bear can bring delight to its viewers
- \_\_\_ 7. Once a coast guard vessel in the Canadian Arctic received a visit from an adult male polar bear
- \_\_\_ 8. The bear, traveling atop a drifting ice floe
- \_\_\_ 9. The crew, who did not know better, decided to feed the curious critter floating alongside the boat
- \_\_\_ 10. A case of black molasses from the ship's storeroom
- \_\_\_ 11. Soon the bear and the ice floe were black and sticky with the sweet stuff
- \_\_\_ 12. After the molasses came the apples

**Extend:** Make each of the five sentence fragments into a complete sentence. Always proofread your writing for sentence fragments.