

Sentence Errors 1

It is important to present your ideas in clear, complete sentences. Sometimes errors appear in writing that make ideas hard to understand. Some of these errors are **sentence fragments**, **run-on sentences**, and **comma splices**. These sentence errors are easy to fix. (See the examples below and on pages 86-87 in *Write Source 2000* for more information.)



EXAMPLES

Fragment:

If it leaked.

Run-On

It leaked it sank.

Comma Splice:

It leaked, it sank.

Complete:

If it leaked, it would sink.

Complete:

It leaked; it sank.

Complete:

It leaked. It sank.

Directions

Write *C* in front of a sentence that is correct, *CS* in front of a comma splice, *RO* in front of a run-on sentence, and *SF* in front of a sentence fragment. (The fragment example may also contain a complete sentence.) Then fix the sentence errors. One sentence will need two corrections. The first one has been done for you.

- SF 1. The movie *Titanic* tells the story of the disaster ^{y a} ~~As~~ seen by one survivor.
- _____ 2. Survivor Dr. Washington Dodge of San Francisco reported his observations of the wreck. Giving details in a 1912 newspaper story.
- _____ 3. We had retired to our stateroom, the noise of the collision was not at all alarming.
- _____ 4. They started to lower the lifeboats after a lapse of some minutes there was little excitement.