





Power Up: English ACT Prep Week 4

Sentence Structure + Format





Essential Question

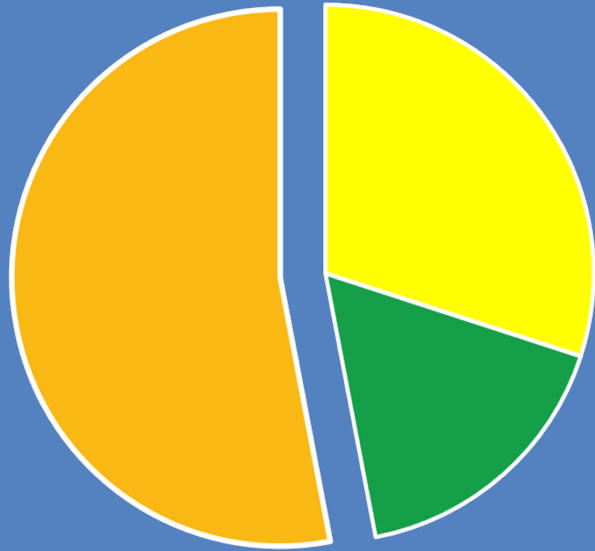
How can I raise my ACT score?



Learning Objectives

- Categorize different instances of fragments, verb tense shifts, and sentence structure errors.
- Identify when fragments, verb tense shifts, and sentence structure rules are broken.

Why Does Punctuation Matter?



- Production of Writing
- Knowledge of Language
- Conventions of Standard English

Conventions of Standard English:

- *Sentence Structure and Format*
- Punctuation
- Usage

Card Matching

1. Read your given card.
2. Create a small group with matching cards:
 - Explanation card
 - Example(s) card(s)
3. Which rule applies to your group? Stand next to your rule.
 - Fragments
 - Verb Tense
 - Sentence Structure



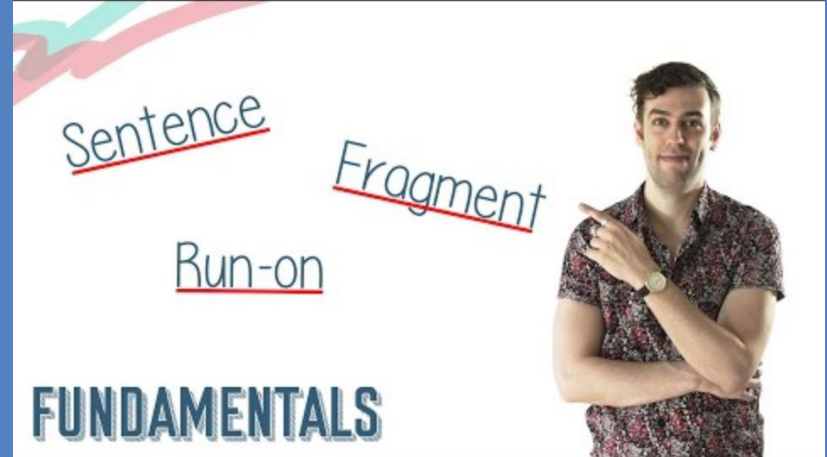
Find Your Group + Rule



[K20 Center 3 Minute Timer](#)

Rule: Fragments

1. Watch the video.
2. Write notes on the rule.
3. Check to see if you are in the right group.



Fragments

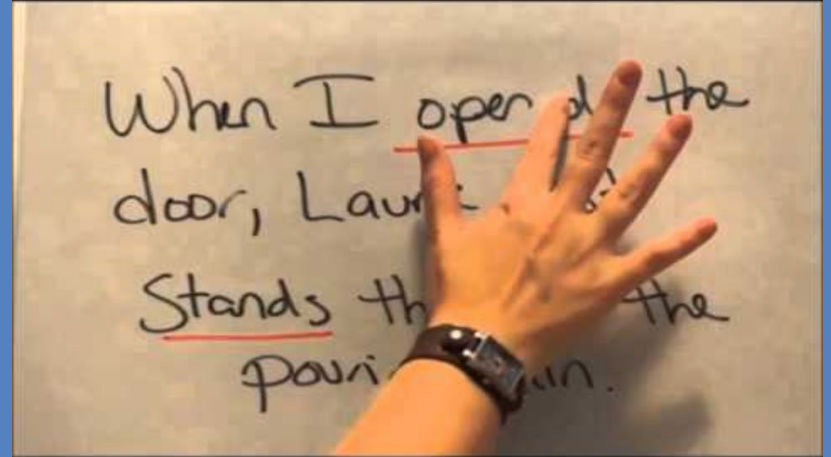
Rearrange Yourself as Needed



[K20 Center 3 Minute Timer](#)

Rule: Verb Tense Shifts

1. Watch the video.
2. Write notes on the rule.
3. Check to see if you are in the right group.



Verb Tense Shifts

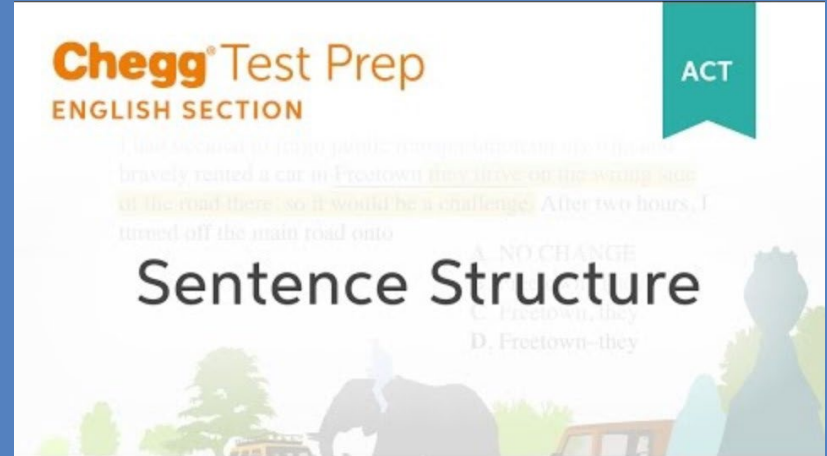
Rearrange Yourself as Needed



[K20 Center 2 Minute Timer](#)

Rule: Sentence Structure

1. Watch the video.
2. Write notes on the rule.
3. Check to see if you are in the right group.



Chegg® Test Prep
ENGLISH SECTION

ACT

I had decided to join public transport but my friend bravely rented a car in Freetown they drive on the wrong side of the road there so it would be a challenge. After two hours, I turned off the main road onto

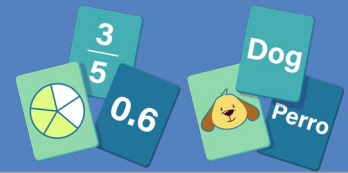
Sentence Structure

A. NO CHANGE
B. Freetown, they
C. Freetown—they
D. Freetown—they

The screenshot shows a multiple-choice question about sentence structure. The text of the question is: "I had decided to join public transport but my friend bravely rented a car in Freetown they drive on the wrong side of the road there so it would be a challenge. After two hours, I turned off the main road onto". The options are: A. NO CHANGE, B. Freetown, they, C. Freetown—they, and D. Freetown—they. The background of the screenshot shows a silhouette of a person and an elephant in a landscape.

Sentence Structure

Answers | Fragments



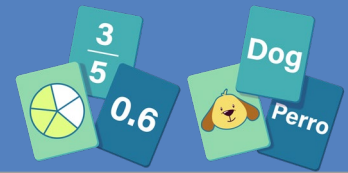
Explanations	Examples
<p>Noun participial phrase fragments often begin with a word ending in “ing” or “ed,” which results in a missing main clause.</p>	<p>✗ Jumping over the puddle.</p> <p>✓ Children are jumping over the puddle.</p>
<p>Fix awkward-sounding fragments or run-ons with correct punctuation or conjunctions.</p>	<p>✗ The pin is hers, the hat is mine.</p> <p>✓ The pin is hers, and the hat is mine.</p>

Answers | Verb Tense



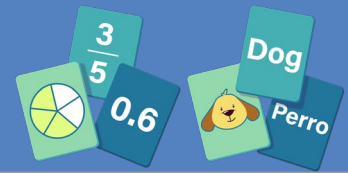
Explanations	Examples
<p>Make sure verb tense and voice between simple clauses, simple adjoining sentences, and entire sentences match the subject (s).</p>	<p>✗ Yesterday, I <u>went</u> to Sarah's place and I <u>take</u> an Uber.</p> <p>✓ Yesterday, I went to Sarah's place and I took an Uber.</p>
<p>Use consistent and logical verb tense and pronoun references throughout the entire work.</p>	<p>✗ School dress codes <u>were not adopted</u> in the US until 1969, but the basic idea for such a system <u>has been proposed</u> years earlier.</p> <p>✓ School dress codes were not adopted in the US until 1969, but the basic idea for such a system had been proposed years earlier.</p>

Answers | Sentence Structure



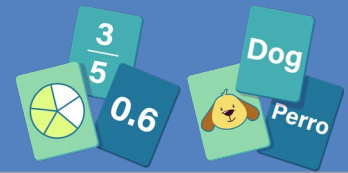
Explanations	Examples
<p>A misplaced modifier is placed too far from the word(s) it adds meaning to.</p>	<p>✗ She wore a bicycle helmet on her head <u>that was too large</u>.</p> <p>✓ She wore a bicycle helmet that was too large for her head.</p>
<p>Parallelisms repeat grammatical elements (like noun/verb phrases) to create and emphasize memorable phrases and flow.</p>	<p>✗ Strategy for developing speaking skills includes using minimal response, <u>how to recognize scripts</u>, and using language to discuss language.</p> <p>✓ Strategy for developing speaking skills includes using minimal response, recognizing scripts, and using language to discuss language.</p>

Answers | Sentence Structure



Explanations	Examples
<p>Join simple sentences with punctuation or conjunctions.</p>	<p>✗ I'm looking forward to meeting <u>you</u>. I hope it will be fun. ✓ I'm looking forward to meeting you and I hope it will be fun.</p>
<p>Put adjectives in this order: opinion-size-age-shape- color-origin-material- purpose.</p>	<p>✗ The <u>blue square, large</u> box is mine. ✓ The large square, blue box is mine.</p>
<p>Pronoun agreement must match the noun it replaces in number, place, and gender.</p>	<p>✗ Alice, <u>that</u> does my hair, has moved to another hairdresser. ✓ Alice, who does my hair, has moved to another hairdresser.</p>

Answers | Sentence Structure



Explanations	Examples
<p>Dangling modifiers are words, phrases, or clauses that describe something that has been left out of the sentence.</p>	<p>✗ <u>While walking to work</u>, a taxi ran a stop sign.</p> <p>✓ While walking to work, I saw a taxi ran a stop sign.</p>
<p>Coordination links words, clauses, or sentences of equal type/importance, while subordination emphasizes which are most important.</p>	<p>✗ LaTosha enjoyed those special moments when a group of students who also came from Northern Oklahoma visited her dorm, <u>which was lonely for most of the school year.</u></p> <p>✓ Because LaTosha's dorm was lonely most of the school year, she enjoyed those special moments when a group of students who also were from Northern Oklahoma would visit.</p>

Extras | Answer Key



Rule	Explanations	Examples
Fragments	Noun participial phrase fragments	<p>✗ <u>Went</u> to dinner after the game.</p> <p>✓ We went to dinner after the game.</p> <p>✗ <u>Swimming</u> in the crystal-clear water.</p> <p>✓ We went swimming in the crystal-clear water.</p> <p>✗ <u>Dancing</u> under the stars.</p> <p>✓ We are dancing under the stars.</p>
	Fix awkward-sounding fragments or run-ons	<p>✗ After the tennis match, Jamal celebrated with his <u>family, he</u> also hung out with friends.</p> <p>✓ After the tennis match, Jamal celebrated with his family and hung out with friends.</p> <p>✗ I wanted to go to the store for <u>groceries I also</u> wanted to get some snacks for the party tonight.</p> <p>✓ I wanted to go to the store for groceries, but I also wanted to get some snacks for the party tonight.</p>

Extras | Answer Key



Rule	Explanations	Examples
Verb Tense Shifts	Use consistent and logical verb tense throughout a work	<p>✗ I <u>detangle</u> my hair, and I <u>screamed</u>. ✓ I detangled my hair, and I screamed.</p> <p>✗ Derek always <u>neglects</u> the trash, so his wife <u>dragged</u> the can to the curb. ✓ Derek always neglects the trash, so his wife drags the can to the curb.</p> <p>✗ She will visit her grandmother tomorrow, <u>who she see</u> every weekend. ✓ She will visit her grandmother tomorrow, who she has seen every weekend.</p> <p>✗ They <u>have went</u> to the store. ✓ They have gone to the store.</p>

Extras | Answer Key



Rule	Explanations	Examples
Sentence Structure	Parallelism	<p>✗ She likes <u>cooking, jogging, and to read</u>.</p> <p>✓ She likes cooking, jogging, and reading.</p>
	Join simple sentences	<p>✗ We ate pasta for dinner. <u>We also ate salad</u>.</p> <p>✓ We ate pasta and salad for dinner.</p> <p>✗ He wanted to go for a <u>walk, he couldn't find his shoes</u>.</p> <p>✓ He wanted to go for a walk, but he couldn't find his shoes.</p> <p>✗ I love <u>chocolate</u>. I also enjoy vanilla ice cream.</p> <p>✓ I love chocolate, but I also enjoy vanilla ice cream.</p>
	Order of adjectives	<p>✗ They stayed at a <u>luxurious European old</u> hotel.</p> <p>✓ They stayed at a luxurious old European hotel.</p>

ACT English Subject Tips



Answer Choices

- It's okay to choose “NO CHANGE” as it is just as likely to be correct as any other option.
- If you're running out of time or just don't know the answer, make an educated guess. “Often, the most concise answer is the correct one” compared to the longer wordier answer choices.

Test Your Skills!

You have 7 minutes to read and answer the questions in the provided passage.



[K20 Center 7 Minute Timer](#)



You Powered Up!

Side Quest: Listen for sentence fragments in everyday speech, posts, or other forms of communication. Write down the corrected form.

Sneak Peek: Next time we will be reviewing all that we have learned about the Conventions of Standard English. So be sure to bring your Skill Sets Check handouts!





Side Quest Example

Side Quest: Listen for sentence fragments in everyday speech, posts, or other forms of communication. Write down the corrected form.

WARNING: Correcting people aloud or virtually may cause unforeseen hardships for you!

