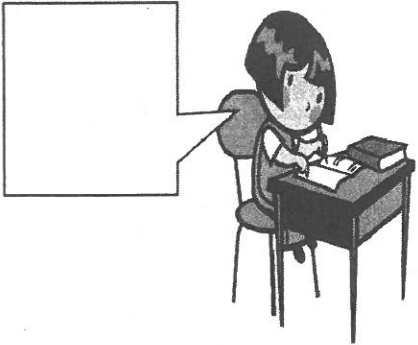


Sophisticated Sentences: Sentence Structure

WHAT IS A SENTENCE?

	<p>A sentence is a basic unit of thought. It must have a subject, a verb, and a complete thought. The subject is the person or thing that is acting or being described. The verb is the action or state of being. A complete thought means that the sentence makes sense by itself. Sentences can be very large or very small!</p>	
	Subject	I
	Verb	wrote
	A complete thought.	I wrote this paper.

END PUNCTUATION

A sentence must end with a period [.] , an exclamation mark [!] , or a question mark [?].		
Statements end with a period.	I need to call you.	Right
Questions end with a question mark.	Are you coming tonight?	Right
Exclamation marks are for shouting.	Put down the gun!	Right

SENTENCE FRAGMENTS

A sentence fragment is missing a subject, verb, or complete thought.		
Missing subject	Wrote this paper.	Wrong
Missing verb	I this paper.	Wrong
Missing a complete thought	Because I wrote this paper.	Wrong

SENTENCE COMBINING MISTAKES

These are mistakes you can make when joining sentences.		
Run on sentence	I wrote this paper and I am proud of it.	Wrong
Fused sentence	I wrote this paper I am proud of it.	Wrong
Comma Splice	I wrote this paper, I am proud of it.	Wrong

THE RIGHT WAY TO COMBINE SENTENCES

You can join two sentences with a semicolon, or with a comma and one of the FANBOYS (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).		
semicolon	I wrote this paper; I am proud of it.	Right
comma and a FANBOYS	I wrote this paper, and I am proud of it.	Right