

# ENGLISH PLUS

WITH  
ANSWER  
KEY

## PRACTICE WORKSHEETS



## WRITING

COMMAS, FRAGMENT,  
RUN-ONS, COMMA SPLICE

# Writing Grammar | Commas, Fragments, Run-Ons, Comma Splice

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1. Read each group of words. If it is a complete sentence, write C on the line. If it is a sentence fragment, write SF on the line. Then write a correct sentence. More than one correction may be possible.

A. One of the most common reasons that people make a decision to become a vegetarian.

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B. Because the wind and rain were so incredibly strong between noon and 4 p.m.

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C. Although the price of gasoline is extremely high, people just complain and pay the high prices.

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D. In order to cash a check at a bank where you do not have an account and no one there knows you.

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E. Of course the main ingredient that you have to have in order to make chicken soup is chicken.

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F. For some teachers, a sentence fragment is a very serious type of mistake because it shows a lack of understanding of what a sentence is.

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G. Although the economic forecast for the housing market does not contain any especially bright news for those who wish to buy a house in the near future.

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H. When the vice-president was sworn in as the new number two person in the entire country, her husband and her children as well as her grandchildren attended the ceremony.

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2. **Read each sentence or set of sentences. If it is correct, write C on the line. If there is an error, circle it and indicate the type of error by writing SF for a sentence fragment, RO for run-on sentence, or CS for a comma splice. Then write the correct sentence(s). More than one correction may be possible.**

A. A whale is one of the largest animals on the planet, few people have seen one in person.

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B. Yesterday's weather caused problems for many travelers. Most of the flights were canceled. Due to the torrential rains and high winds.

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- C. Computer programs can help students learn a foreign language, many students use the language programs in the computer center.

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- D. It was definitely a nervous time for many people. When we had the economic crisis, prices and unemployment soared. The government did everything possible to make sure that people did not panic.

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- E. Dancing with the Stars is an internationally known television show, the dancing is very exciting.

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- F. This magazine won several awards last year. For the content and the style of its stories. The last issue had two superb short stories that were written by distinguished authors.

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- G. Lazaro Cardenas was the president of Mexico from 1934 to 1940. His original goal was to become a teacher the political situation in Mexico at that time caused him to change his mind.

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- H. Despite all of the extremely depressing news that we recently heard from that part of the world.

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**3. Insert commas in these sentences where necessary. Make sure you know why you are adding the commas. Some sentences are correct with no commas.**

Because Malaysia and Thailand are located next to each other we might conclude that these two nations share many similarities. To a certain extent this conclusion is true. For example both countries have temperate climates throughout the year. Thailand's economy is growing and so is Malaysia's. In addition Malaysia has many miles of beautiful beaches that attract tourists and Thailand does too. However there are also several important differences. Malaysians and Thais speak completely different languages. The population of Malaysia is about 29 million but the population of Thailand is about 69 million. Thailand has a national king but Malaysia does not. Finally Malaysia was a British colony but Thailand was never a British colony. Thus the fact that two countries are near each other does not always mean they are similar.

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# Writing Grammar | Commas, Fragments, Run-Ons, Comma Splice

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1.	A.	_____
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	B.	_____
		_____
	C.	_____
		_____
	D.	_____
		_____
	E.	_____
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	F.	_____
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	G.	_____
		_____
	H.	_____
		_____
2.	A.	_____
		_____
		_____
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		_____
	B.	_____

Answer Sheet

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C. \_\_\_\_\_

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D. \_\_\_\_\_

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E. \_\_\_\_\_

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F. \_\_\_\_\_

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G. \_\_\_\_\_

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H. \_\_\_\_\_

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Answer Sheet

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# Writing Grammar | Commas, Fragments, Run-Ons, Comma Splice

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1. Read each group of words. If it is a complete sentence, write C on the line. If it is a sentence fragment, write SF on the line. Then write a correct sentence. More than one correction may be possible.

A. One of the most common reasons that people make a decision to become a vegetarian.

SF - One of the most common reasons that people make a decision to become a

vegetarian is to improve their health.

B. Because the wind and rain were so incredibly strong between noon and 4 p.m.

SF - We didn't go out because the wind and rain were so incredibly strong between noon

and 4 p.m.

C. Although the price of gasoline is extremely high, people just complain and pay the high prices.

C

D. In order to cash a check at a bank where you do not have an account and no one there knows you.

SF - In order to cash a check at a bank where you do not have an account and no one there

knows you, you need the verified signature of issuer on the back of the check.

E. Of course the main ingredient that you have to have in order to make chicken soup is chicken.

C

F. For some teachers, a sentence fragment is a very serious type of mistake because it shows a lack of understanding of what a sentence is.

C

- G. Although the economic forecast for the housing market does not contain any especially bright news for those who wish to buy a house in the near future.

**SF** - Although the economic forecast for the housing market does not contain any  
especially bright news for those who wish to buy a house in the near future, there is still  
hope.

- H. When the vice-president was sworn in as the new number two person in the entire country, her husband and her children as well as her grandchildren attended the ceremony.

**C**

2. Read each sentence or set of sentences. If it is correct, write C on the line. If there is an error, circle it and indicate the type of error by writing SF for a sentence fragment, RO for run-on sentence, or CS for a comma splice. Then write the correct sentence(s). More than one correction may be possible.

- A. A whale is one of the largest animals on the planet, few people have seen one in person.

**CS**

A whale is one of the largest animals on the planet. Few people have seen one in person.

**OR**

Although the whale is one of the largest animals on the planet, few people have seen one  
in person.

- B. Yesterday's weather caused problems for many travelers. Most of the flights were canceled. Due to the torrential rains and high winds.

**SF**

Yesterday's weather caused problems for many travelers. Most of the flights were  
canceled due to the torrential rains and high winds.

- C. Computer programs can help students learn a foreign language, many students use the language programs in the computer center.

**CS**

Computer programs can help students learn a foreign language. Many students use the language programs in the computer center. **OR**

Computer programs can help students learn a foreign language, and many students use the language programs in the computer center.

- D. It was definitely a nervous time for many people. When we had the economic crisis, prices and unemployment soared. The government did everything possible to make sure that people did not panic.

**C**

- E. Dancing with the Stars is an internationally known television show, the dancing is very exciting.

**CS**

Dancing with the Stars is an internationally known television show. The dancing is very exciting. **OR**

Dancing with the Stars is an internationally known television show, and the dancing is very exciting.

- F. This magazine won several awards last year. For the content and the style of its stories. The last issue had two superb short stories that were written by distinguished authors.

**SF**

This magazine won several awards last year for the content and the style of its stories.

The last issue had two superb short stories that were written by distinguished authors.

- G. Lazaro Cardenas was the president of Mexico from 1934 to 1940. His original goal was to become a teacher the political situation in Mexico at that time caused him to change his mind.

**RO**

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Lazaro Cardenas was the president of Mexico from 1934 to 1940. His original goal was to become a teacher. The political situation in Mexico at that time caused him to change his mind.

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- H. Despite all of the extremely depressing news that we recently heard from that part of the world.

**SF**

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Despite all of the extremely depressing news that we recently heard from that part of the world, we are still positive.

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**3. Insert commas in these sentences where necessary. Make sure you know why you are adding the commas. Some sentences are correct with no commas.**

Because Malaysia and Thailand are located next to each other we might conclude that these two nations share many similarities. To a certain extent this conclusion is true. For example both countries have temperate climates throughout the year. Thailand's economy is growing and so is Malaysia's. In addition Malaysia has many miles of beautiful beaches that attract tourists and Thailand does too. However there are also several important differences. Malaysians and Thais speak completely different languages. The population of Malaysia is about 29 million but the population of Thailand is about 69 million. Thailand has a national king but Malaysia does not. Finally Malaysia was a British colony but Thailand was never a British colony. Thus the fact that two countries are near each other does not always mean they are similar.

Because Malaysia and Thailand are located next to each other, we might conclude that these two nations share many similarities. To a certain extent, this conclusion is true. For example, both countries have temperate climates throughout the year. Thailand's economy is growing, and so is Malaysia's. In addition, Malaysia has many miles of beautiful beaches that attract tourists, and Thailand does too. However, there are also several important differences. Malaysians and Thais speak completely different languages. The population of Malaysia is about 29 million, but the population of Thailand is about 69 million. Thailand has a national king, but Malaysia does not. Finally, Malaysia was a British colony, but Thailand was never a British colony. Thus, the fact that two countries are near each other does not always mean they are similar.

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# Writing Grammar | Commas, Fragments, Run-Ons, Comma Splice

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1. A. **SF** - One of the most common reasons that people make a decision to become a vegetarian is to improve their health.
- B. **SF** - We didn't go out because the wind and rain were so incredibly strong between noon and 4 p.m.
- C. **C**
- D. **SF** - In order to cash a check at a bank where you do not have an account and no one there knows you, you need the verified signature of issuer on the back of the check.
- E. **C**
- F. **C**
- G. **SF** - Although the economic forecast for the housing market does not contain any especially bright news for those who wish to buy a house in the near future, there is still hope.
- H. **C**
2. A. **CS**  
A whale is one of the largest animals on the planet. Few people have seen one in person. **OR**  
Although the whale is one of the largest animals on the planet, few people have seen one in person.
- B.

Answer Sheet

**SF**

Yesterday's weather caused problems for many travelers. Most of the flights were canceled due to the torrential rains and high winds.

C. **CS**

Computer programs can help students learn a foreign language. Many students use the language programs in the computer center. **OR**

Computer programs can help students learn a foreign language, and many students use the language programs in the computer center.

D. **C**

E. **CS**

Dancing with the Stars is an internationally known television show. The dancing is very exciting. **OR**

Dancing with the Stars is an internationally known television show, and the dancing is very exciting.

F. **SF**

This magazine won several awards last year for the content and the style of its stories. The last issue had two superb short stories that were written by distinguished authors.

G. **RO**

Lazaro Cardenas was the president of Mexico from 1934 to 1940. His original goal was to become a teacher. The political situation in Mexico at that time caused him to change his mind.

H. **SF**

Despite all of the extremely depressing news that we recently heard from that part of the world, we are still positive.

3. Because Malaysia and Thailand are located next to each other, we might conclude that these two nations share many similarities. To a certain extent, this conclusion is true. For example, both countries have temperate climates throughout the year. Thailand's economy is growing, and so is Malaysia's. In addition, Malaysia has many miles of beautiful beaches that attract tourists, and Thailand does too. However, there are also several important differences. Malaysians and Thais speak completely different languages. The population of Malaysia is about 29 million, but the population of Thailand is about 69 million. Thailand has a national king, but Malaysia does not. Finally, Malaysia was a British colony, but Thailand was never a British colony. Thus, the fact that two countries are near each other does not always mean they are similar.