Sort It Out

Sort sentence pieces, prove your thinking, and write your own.

5.L.GC.2.a "Apply understandings of sentence structure to comprehend a wide variety of grade-level texts. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMPLETE SENTENCE

A sentence has a subject and a predicate and gives a complete thought. It can stand alone.

Clouds drifted above the harbor.

FRAGMENT

A fragment is missing a subject, a predicate, or a complete thought. It cannot stand alone.

Under the old bridge.

1 SORT

8 items

For each item, circle SENTENCE or FRAGMENT, then choose two items and explain how you knew.

1.	The lantern glowed in the window.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
2.	My brother packed his lunch.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
3.	After the final bell.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
4.	Tiny ants carried crumbs.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
5.	Across the muddy field.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
6.	The painter mixed bright colors.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
7.	Our neighbors planted tomatoes.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
8.	Because the road was icy.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new SENTENCE and one new FRAGMENT.

SENTENCE _____

FRAGMENT _____

CHALLENGE

Write a complete sentence, then remove words to turn it into a fragment.

ANSWER KEY # Sort It Out

GRADE 5 · 5.L.GC.2.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The lantern glowed in the window.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject, a predicate, and a complete thought.
2	My brother packed his lunch.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject, a predicate, and a complete thought.
3	After the final bell.	**FRAGMENT**	This prepositional phrase does not tell a complete thought.
4	Tiny ants carried crumbs.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject, a predicate, and a complete thought.
5	Across the muddy field.	**FRAGMENT**	This prepositional phrase does not tell a complete thought.
6	The painter mixed bright colors.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject, a predicate, and a complete thought.
7	Our neighbors planted tomatoes.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject, a predicate, and a complete thought.
8	Because the road was icy.	**FRAGMENT**	It begins with because and does not express a complete thought by itself.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **SENTENCE**: The bicycle rolled down the hill.
- **FRAGMENT**: Near the quiet pond.

Challenge: Sentence: The drummer practiced after school. Fragment: After school.

Accept explanations that identify a complete thought with a subject and predicate for sentences. For fragments, students may explain what is missing or state that the words cannot stand alone.