Thought or Piece?

Sort word groups by whether they tell a whole thought.

3.LF.37 "Compose simple, compound, and complex sentences with correct subject-verb agreement. a. Identify and correct sentence fragments and run-on sentences. b. Identify the subject and predicate of a sentence."

NAME _____ DATE _____

SENTENCE

A sentence tells a whole thought. It has a subject that names who or what, and a predicate that tells what the subject does or is.

Turtles crawl slowly.

FRAGMENT

A fragment does not tell a whole thought. It may be missing a subject or a predicate.

Near waterfalls.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle SENTENCE or FRAGMENT for each numbered item, then choose two items and explain how you knew.

1.	Mia paints a bright kite.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
2.	The fox hides behind a log.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
3.	Across the wide river.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
4.	Our class planted beans.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
5.	The small, spotted puppy.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
6.	Skipped across the yard.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
7.	Rain fell, and the wind blew.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
8.	Dad and I cooked soup.	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. Make your sentence name a subject and tell what it does.

SENTENCE _____

FRAGMENT _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one fragment from Part 1 and add words to turn it into a sentence. Then write the subject and predicate of your new sentence.

ANSWER KEY

Thought or Piece?

GRADE 3 · 3.LF.37

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Mia paints a bright kite.	**SENTENCE**	Mia is the subject, and paints a bright kite is the predicate.
2	The fox hides behind a log.	**SENTENCE**	The fox is the subject, and hides behind a log is the predicate.
3	Across the wide river.	**FRAGMENT**	This phrase has no subject or predicate.
4	Our class planted beans.	**SENTENCE**	Our class is the subject, and planted beans is the predicate.
5	The small, spotted puppy.	**FRAGMENT**	This group names a subject but has no predicate.
6	Skipped across the yard.	**FRAGMENT**	This group has a predicate but does not name who skipped.
7	Rain fell, and the wind blew.	**SENTENCE**	Both joined parts have a subject and predicate.
8	Dad and I cooked soup.	**SENTENCE**	Dad and I is the subject, and cooked soup is the predicate.

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 bees buzz near flowers.
- **FRAGMENT**: Behind my backpack.

Challenge: The small, spotted puppy barked. Subject: The small, spotted puppy. Predicate: barked.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify a whole thought or explain what is missing. For Part 3, accept any original examples that fit their categories.