Whole or Piece?

Sort complete sentences and fragments.

4.LF.38 "Compose complete sentences with correct subject-verb agreement, punctuation, and usage. a. Order adjectives within sentences according to conventional patterns. b. Form and use prepositional phrases and conjunctions. c..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMPLETE SENTENCE

A complete sentence tells a whole thought and has a verb. It has a subject, but in a command, the subject "you" can be understood instead of written.

Please fold the map.

SENTENCE FRAGMENT

A fragment does not tell a whole thought. It may be missing a subject or verb, or it may leave you waiting for more.

Beside the quiet pond.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle the category for each item, then in Part 2 choose one sentence and one fragment and explain how you knew.

1.	A robin sang outside.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
2.	The tiny brown rabbit.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
3.	Under the soccer goal.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
4.	Carry the basket.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
5.	The rain soaked my socks.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
6.	Because the bus was late.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
7.	My uncle baked bread.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT
8.	We watched a kite rise.	SENTENCE FRAGMENT

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Choose one sentence and one fragment and explain how you knew.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new complete sentence and one new fragment.

SENTENCE _____

FRAGMENT _____

CHALLENGE

Turn item 6 into a complete sentence, then name the words you added to finish the thought.

ANSWER KEY

Whole or Piece?

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	A robin sang outside.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject and verb and tells a whole thought.
2	The tiny brown rabbit.	**FRAGMENT**	It has no verb.
3	Under the soccer goal.	**FRAGMENT**	It has no subject or verb.
4	Carry the basket.	**SENTENCE**	It is a complete command with the understood subject "you."
5	The rain soaked my socks.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject and verb and tells a whole thought.
6	Because the bus was late.	**FRAGMENT**	The word "because" leaves the thought unfinished.
7	My uncle baked bread.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject and verb and tells a whole thought.
8	We watched a kite rise.	**SENTENCE**	It has a subject and verb and tells a whole thought.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Choose one sentence and one fragment and explain how you knew.
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 puppy slept on the rug.
- **FRAGMENT**: Near the old fence.

Challenge: Because the bus was late, we walked home. I added "we walked home" to finish the thought.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify a whole thought or tell what is missing. Item 4 is complete because a command has an understood subject, "you."