

Thought or Fragment

Sort sentences, prove your thinking, and create your own.

3.LU "The student will use the conventions of Standard English when speaking and writing, differentiating between contexts that call for formal English and situations where informal discourse is more appropriate. Grammar Produce, expand..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

COMPLETE SENTENCE

A complete sentence tells a full thought. It has someone or something and tells what that person, place, animal, or thing does or is.

A rabbit hopped over stones.

INCOMPLETE SENTENCE

An incomplete sentence does not tell a full thought. It needs more words to make sense as a sentence.

Beside the noisy waterfall.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle COMPLETE or INCOMPLETE for each item, then choose two items and explain what makes each one complete or incomplete.

1. The puppy chased its tail.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE

2. My brother and I built a fort.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE

3. Under the tall tree.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE

4. The yellow bus stopped quickly.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE

5. After dinner tonight.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE

6. Running across the field.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE

7. Our class planted seeds.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE

8. In the old box.

COMPLETE

INCOMPLETE

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 COMPLETE sentence and one new INCOMPLETE sentence.

COMPLETE _____

INCOMPLETE _____

CHALLENGE

Write a COMPLETE sentence that tells about two actions.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The puppy chased its tail.	COMPLETE	It has a subject, puppy, and tells what the puppy did.
2	My brother and I built a fort.	COMPLETE	It tells a full thought with a subject and action.
3	Under the tall tree.	INCOMPLETE	It tells where, but not what happened.
4	The yellow bus stopped quickly.	COMPLETE	It has a subject and a complete action.
5	After dinner tonight.	INCOMPLETE	It tells when, but it does not tell what happened.
6	Running across the field.	INCOMPLETE	It tells an action but not who is doing it.
7	Our class planted seeds.	COMPLETE	It tells a full thought about what the class did.
8	In the old box.	INCOMPLETE	It tells where, but it does not tell a full thought.

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)

- **COMPLETE:** Dad fixed the broken gate.
- **INCOMPLETE:** Near the sparkling pond.

Challenge: The girls sang and danced at the party.

For Part 2, students should name a clue such as a subject and action for a complete sentence, or explain what information is missing from an incomplete sentence. Accept different accurate examples in Part 3 and the challenge.