

## Added-Detail Fragments

*Especially bacon and eggs.*

Sound like a sentence?

You can hopefully hear that this sounds funny and is not a sentence. The fragment was likely sitting right next to the sentence that it was supposed to stay attached to. *I love breakfast foods. Especially bacon and eggs.*

People often write added-detail fragments for much the same reason they write **-ing** fragments. Sensing some kind of break, the writer accidentally put in the big STOP sign and cut that detail off from its sentence. Often a comma would have gone there, but sometimes we need no punctuation at all.

### PRACTICE:

One word group in each example is an added-detail fragment. Spot which one and underline it and then notice how it could be fixed:

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- *I love to cook and eat Italian food. Especially spaghetti and lasagna.*

**Fix: Attach the fragment to the complete thought that comes before it.**

*I love to cook and eat Italian **food, especially spaghetti and lasagna.***

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- *The class often starts late. For example, yesterday at a quarter after nine instead of at nine sharp.*

**Fix: Add a subject and a verb to the fragment to make it its own complete sentence.**

*The class often starts late. For example, yesterday **it began** at a quarter after nine instead of at nine sharp*

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- *He failed a number of courses before he earned his degree. Among them, English, Economics, and General Biology.*

**Fix: Reword it as necessary to make the fragment part of the sentence that comes before it.**

*Among the courses he failed before he earned his degree were English I, Economics, and General Biology.*