

SENTENCE FRAGMENTS

EACH ITEM BELOW CONTAINS A SENTENCE FRAGMENT. CORRECT ANSWERS ARE EXPLAINED.

1. After the receptionist led the family to the table.

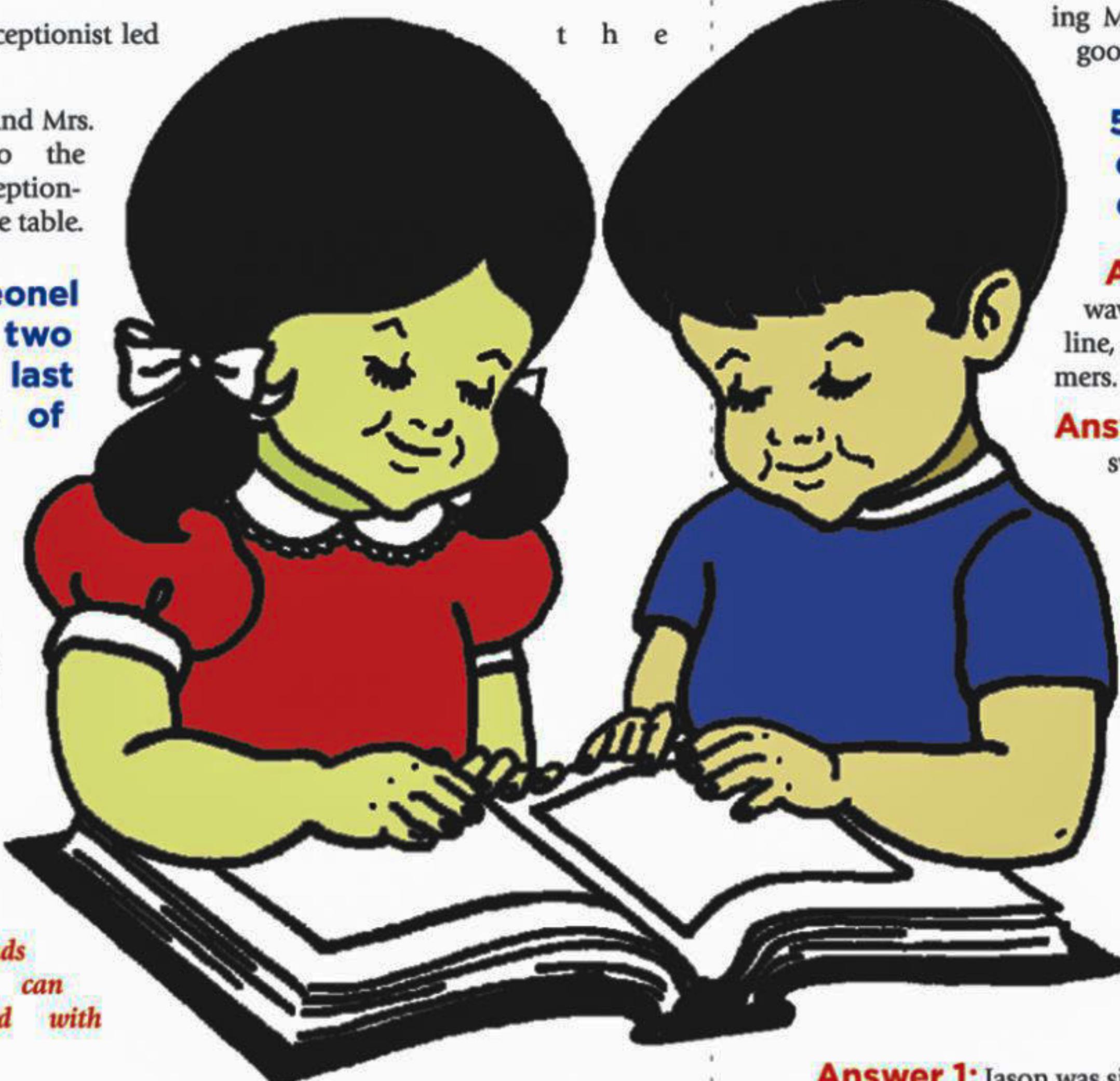
Answer 1: After the receptionist led the family to the table, the server brought the menus.**Answer 2:** The receptionist led family to the table.**Answer 3:** Mom and Mrs. Highsmith went to the restroom after the receptionist led the family to the table.

2. Being that Leonel Messi scored two goals in the last three minutes of the match.

Answer 1: Barcelon won the exciting match because Leonel Messi scored two goals in the last three minutes of the match.

Tip:

Ask students to void the construction "Being that." This construction sounds non-standard and can usually be replaced with "because."

**Answer 2:** Leonel Messi scored two goals in the last three minutes of the match against Real Madrid.**Answer 3:** Having scored two goals in the last three minutes of the match against Real Madrid, Leonel Messi was declared the tournament's most valuable player.

3. Reprimanded by her coach for wearing the wrong colored shoes to the state championship match.

Answer 1: Reprimanded by her coach for wearing the wrong colored shoes to the state championship match, Rebecca sat on the bench for the entire match.**Answer 2:** Rebecca was reprimanded by her coach for wearing the wrong colored shoes to the state championship match.**Answer 3:** Rebecca quit the team because she was reprimanded by her coach for wearing the wrong colored shoes to the state championship match.

Tip:

Students will quickly see that to form effective, meaningful sentences, they will usually have to add information. They may have to create names and add information to the sentence.

SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT

RULES FOR SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT

RULE 1 – A verb agrees with its subject in number.

Singular subjects take singular verbs:

The car stays in the garage.

The flower smells good.

There is an old saying: "Opposites attract." The rule for singular and plural verbs is just the opposite of the rule for singular and plural nouns. Remember this when you match subjects and verbs. You might guess that 'stays' and 'smells' are plural verbs because they end in s. They aren't. Both 'stays' and 'smells' are singular verbs.

RULE 2 – The number of the subject (singular or plural) is not changed by words that come between the subject and the verb.

One of the eggs is broken. 'Of the eggs' is a prepositional phrase. The subject 'one' and the verb 'is' are both singular. Mentally omit the prepositional phrase to make the subject verb-agreement easier to make.

Circle the correct verb in each of the sentences below:

1. Your friend (talk-talks) too much.
2. The man with the roses (look-looks) like your brother.
3. The women in the pool (swim-swims) well.
4. Bill (drive-drives) a cab.
5. The football players (run-runs) five miles every day.
6. That red-haired lady in the fur hat (live-lives) across the street.
7. He (cook-cooks) dinner for his family.
8. The boys (walk-walks) to school every day.
9. The weather on the coast (appear-appears) to be good this weekend.
10. The center on the basketball team (bounce-bounces) the ball too high.

4. Despite Ramona having denied ever meeting Maggie's husband at Le Chalet restaurant.

Answer 1: Maggie remained angry at Ramona, despite Ramona having denied ever meeting Maggie's husband at Le Chalet restaurant.**Answer 2:** Ramona denied ever meeting Maggie's husband at Le Chalet restaurant.

Tip:

*Removing information and forming a simple, declarative sentence is the most expedient solution for most of these sentences, but not the most interesting one.***Answer 3:** Despite Ramona having denied ever meeting Maggie's husband at Le Chalet restaurant, the good friends broke up over a suspicion of infidelity.

5. Limp, with orange-red tentacles waving from its bloated carcass next to the shoreline.

Answer 1: Limp, with orange-red tentacles waving from its bloated carcass next to the shoreline, the strange sea animal floated toward the swimmers.**Answer 2:** The strange octopus floated near the swimmers, Limp, with orange-red tentacles waving from its bloated carcass.

Tip:

*In answer 2, it made sense to me to remove some information. Answers will vary. The key point to stress is that the idea of the sentence must be communicated clearly and completely.***Answer 3:** The strange sea animal was limp, with orange-red tentacles waving from its bloated carcass next to the shoreline.

6. Sipping Coke in first class during Flight 321 from Kansas City to Atlanta.

Answer 1: Jason was sipping Coke in first class during Flight 321 from Kansas City to Atlanta.**Answer 2:** Sipping Coke in first class during Flight 321 from Kansas City to Atlanta, the Hewlett Packard sales executive wrote her monthly expense report.

Tip:

Again, please note that the answers will vary greatly, and the students may express their creativity in constructing wildly different scenarios.

7. Crossing 8th street quickly and running in the general direction of Marlins Stadium.

Answer 1: Marlon crossed 8th street quickly and ran in the general direction of Marlins Stadium.**Answer 2:** Crossing 8th street quickly and running in the general direction of Marlins Stadium, Marlon tried to catch up to his friends before they paid for the tickets.**Answer 3:** As he crossed 8th street quickly and ran in the general direction of Marlins Stadium, Marlon tried to catch up to his friends before they paid for the tickets.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Where is the university that will stop using titles?

2. What will the university stop using these titles on?

3. Who does the university want to support?

4. What did the university say titles might be, besides invalidating?

5. What title are many transgender people choosing to use?

6. Who has widely welcomed the decision not to use titles?

7. What does the university oppose?

8. Who said they wanted people at the university to feel safe?

9. Who said the decision was "true equality"?

10. What right did a professor talk about in the last sentence of the article?



Find the answers in next MONDAY issue

ANSWER KEY TO THE LAST EIS PAGE ACTIVITIES (DATED JULY 16, 2018)

True/ False

aT bF cT dF eF fT gT hT

Comprehension questions

1The British Government 2 Over seven million tons 3 Awareness 5 "sell-by" "use-by" "best before" 6 The energy and resources wasted 7 people are going hungry and using food bank 8 Methane 9 They have 'funny shape' 10 cook and taste

Synonym questions

1f 2i 3d 4a 5h 6b 7e 8j 9g 10c

University ends use of Mr, Ms and Mrs

A university in South Africa has decided Ms or Mrs. The University of the Witwatersrand said it will stop using these titles on any form of communication to support people who are non-conforming. A statement from officials realizes that it is invalidating and for example, was...female at birth but constantly addressed by a non-affirming were transgender or non-binary are title "Mx," which is legally recognized in

The decision has been widely welcomed by the university said it, "opposes all public basis of gender identity and gender official said: "We want people in our safe, supported and ultimately gender person myself, it means a lot welcoming." A law professor said wonderful moment for true equality trumps". She added: "It's a of the diversity of gender identity respected for whomever you



to no longer use titles such as Mr, watersrand said it will stop communication with students. It took transgender or gender officials read: "The university distressing for a person who, identifies as male to be title." It added that people who choosing the gender-neutral many countries across the world.

by the university community. The and private discrimination on the expression". A university university community to feel respected. As a transgender being in a space which is the action was, "the most across a multitude of spectrums for an understanding tity and the right to be are."

Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The article said a university will stop using the titles 'Dr' and 'professor'. T / F
- b. The university wants to stop using titles to support transgender people. T / F
- c. The university said it can be distressing for people to have to use titles. T / F
- d. Many transgender people are choosing to use the title 'Mx'. T / F
- e. The university's decision is very unpopular in the community. T / F
- f. The university said it wants people to feel safe. T / F
- g. A law professor said the university's action did little for equality. T / F
- h. The professor said taking away titles was disrespectful. T / F

