

# How to Identify a Fragment

## QUESTIONS

1. Does the word group have a subject? (Note that the subject may be understood as *you*. Example: [You] *Close the door.*)

NO

## REVISION STRATEGIES

It is a fragment.  
Revise.

YES

2. Does the word group have a complete verb? (Note that **verbals** are not complete verbs.)

NO

It is a fragment.  
Revise.

YES

3. Does the word group express a complete idea? If it begins with a subordinating word (*although, since, if*), a relative pronoun (*that, which, who*), or a transitional word or phrase (*for example, likewise, also*), does the word group contain an **independent clause**?

NO

It is a fragment.  
Revise.

YES

4. It is a sentence.