

CRIME SCENE

Grammar



**FRAGMENTS, RUN-ONS
& COMMA SPLICES**



CSI LANGUAGE

Fragments, Run-Ons, & Comma Splices

IDEAL UNIT:	Sentences	TIME RANGE:	30-45 Minutes	SUPPLIES:	Pencil & Paper
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TOPICS OF FOCUS:

- Identifying fragments
- Identifying run-ons and comma splices
- Distinguishing between complete sentences, fragments, and run-ons
- Understanding the use of punctuation, including semi-colon rules, to correct fragments and run-ons
- Identifying the elements missing from a complete sentence

COMMON CORE ALIGNMENT:

L.4.1.F	Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.
L.4.1, L.5.1, L.6.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

General Procedures

*A.) As an optional hook, you can provide or read students the letter from Professor Weiss. These are relatively the same for each CSI activity and introduce the criminal and world region it takes place.

B.) Provide groups (ideally 2-3), the possible suspects, 6 crime scene puzzles and a worksheet to use to record their findings. You may choose to laminate the criminals or crime scenes for easier reuse. They also work well printed as a packet.

C.) Students will work to solve the crime. A vandal has gone and tried to destroy language as we know it. Generally, it takes between 30-45 minutes to complete. You can drop hints or provide assistance to help groups that are behind the pace. There are some situations that require students to identify errors and others that check understanding of the grammar rules. Previewing which crime scenes might be the most challenging will help you be prepared to help small groups or the whole class.

The errors are designed to test on all the above topics of focus, scattered throughout the crime scenes.

D.) At the end of each scene, students will receive a clue that will substitute into the “Cryptic Text Message”. This provides an element of self-checking because if the Cryptic Text does not lead to a criminal, they know they need to recheck their work. In the end, students will determine which suspect should be arrested. *The gender, race and ethnicity of the guilty “suspect” are intentionally varied across the entire CSI series.*

*E.) There is an emphasis on “evidence” since this is an investigation. This may mean circling the errors and even showing the appropriate corrections. You may like for students to create a portfolio of evidence proving that they have arrested the right person and will demonstrate their understanding of their historical content present in the problem.

*F.) Some teachers enjoy having their students present and defend their evidence to the class in a brief oral presentation.

*Optional Extensions

THE EVIDENCE



INVESTIGATOR: _____

1.	CLUE
2.	CLUE
3.	CLUE
4.	CLUE
5.	CLUE
6.	CLUE
CRYPTIC TEXT MESSAGE	
SUSPECT	

CSI: Fragments, Run-Ons, & Comma Splices



Detectives,

The boys and girls have once again come out to play. This time, the international evil genius terrorist group the Grammanators are running amok over our maple-leaved friends of the north. Although we have apprehended a number of their associates, we have yet to recover any pieces of their ill-conceived world-conquering device that they soon may deploy to – conquer the world. From the intelligence we have gathered, the anonymous henchman “Fraggy Runner” is the culprit behind these robberies.

The Grammantors use codes to communicate with each other. To claim their work, they send copies of their altered text to their teammates. When complete, they send a cryptic text message to their teammates to boast. The text message when unscrambled correctly will reveal Fraggy Runner’s secret passcode. So far there are six suspects that police have questioned.

It is hoped that someone with a strong understanding of nouns can use their knowledge to check the vandalism at the crime scenes.

Your job is to bring Fraggy Runner to justice and save the world’s language skills. You need to be prepared to state your case and demonstrate your understanding of grammar across the following topics about Canada that Fraggy Runner is known to use in the notes:



- Geography
- Cities
- History
- Politics
- Animals
- Canadian Sport

In your investigation, be sure to explain all of your thoughts. We need to have clear evidence that supports your conclusions. This is not a time to be sloppy. The slightest illegible footnote could result in a not guilty verdict.







Good luck to you, gumshoe,
Professor Weiss



THE SUSPECTS

Who is Fragggy Runner?



<p>NAME Kochi</p> <p>OCCUPATION Elementary Teacher</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Device</p> 	<p>NAME Oswald</p> <p>OCCUPATION Manager</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Animal</p> 
<p>NAME Tyrone</p> <p>OCCUPATION Police Officer</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Career</p> 	<p>NAME Eden</p> <p>OCCUPATION Organic Farmer</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Place</p> 
<p>NAME Lin</p> <p>OCCUPATION Graduate Student</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Music</p> 	<p>NAME Carlo</p> <p>OCCUPATION Grocer</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Food</p> 



Scene #1 Canada's Wikipedia Page



Fraggy Runner has been online again. This time, Wikipedia readers were shocked to see Fraggy Runner had vandalized information about Canada's politics on its page.

Bonjour mes amis! I think it should be me in charge around here, *eh?*

CANADIAN POLITICS



Use the word bank to fill in the gaps in each political fact. Which options from the word bank would not correctly form complete sentences?

- The British monarch is the head of _____ is currently Queen Elizabeth II.
- Because Canada was previously controlled by the _____ of its systems come from British parliamentary rules.
- The Prime Minister is Justin _____ acts as head of the government.
- Canada is a democracy _____ tradition of liberalism and equality.

WORD BANK

Circle the options in the bank that would not be ways to form 1 or 2 complete sentences for each political fact. You may circle more than one option on each line.

1.	state, and this = 2	state, this = 5	state. This = 3	state; this = 0
2.	British. Some = 3	British, some = 1	British, so some = 5	British; some = 3
3.	Trudeau, who = 7	Trudeau. He = 0	Trudeau, he = 2	Trudeau. When he = 3
4.	it has a = 6	. Its = 4	. It has a = 5	and has a = 5

Add the numbers next to the circled words in the bank.
Identify the letter that your total points to.

8 ↓ M	11 ↓ O	15 ↓ U	18 ↓ N	23 ↓ T	28 ↓ I	31 ↓ E	35 ↓ S
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Scene #2 Royal Canadian Geographical Society -- Ottawa, Ontario



Fraggy Runner made it into the headquarters of the organization dedicated to Canadian geography. The next day, workers claimed Canada had been removed from all their maps.



You think you're so clever, but when I'm finished you won't know where you are or what you're doing.

CANADIAN GEOGRAPHY

Fraggy Runner messed around with some Canada facts.
Which sentence includes a fragment?



The second largest country in the world after Russia. ➔ **R**



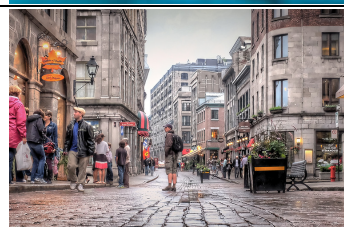
The country stretches across six time zones. ➔ **O**



The coastline of Canada is the longest in the world. ➔ **C, K**



More than 31,700 lakes can be found in Canada. ➔ **I**



Only 0.5% of the world's population live in Canada. ➔ **E**



Canada's longest river is the McKenzie River. ➔ **S**

Scene #3 Canadian Museum of History -- Gatineau, Quebec



Fraggy Runner broke into the museum dedicated to Canadian history. Once inside, Fraggy Runner broke precious pieces of Canadian art into fragments.



Under my rules, complete sentences will be history! Muhahahaha!

CANADIAN HISTORY

List each of the sentences below under the correct heading to identify whether it contains a fragment, a run-on, or only complete sentences.

Which heading has the most sentences listed?

Complete Sentences	Run-Ons	Fragments
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#1	The first people to come to Canada arrived between 15,000 and 30,000 years ago from Asia.
#2	Around 1000 A.D. a Viking explorer named Leif Eriksson reached Newfoundland, Canada.
#3	Leif Eriksson didn't stay long, but he was the first European to discover North America.
#4	In the 16 th century, French and British explorers.
#5	There were disagreements between farmers and fur traders this caused four wars between 1689 and 1763.
#6	After the final war, which was called the French and Indian War.
#7	This war left the British in control of Canada French influence continued and remains today.

Which heading has the most sentences listed?

Complete Sentences ↓ B	Run-Ons ↓ A	Fragments ↓ C	Tie ↓ O, N
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Fraggy Runner has gone online to shake up more sentences. While Fraggy Runner was on the net, Yelp believes thousands of false reviews were added.

Next it's your cities I will be visiting, reviewing, and running all over! What will I think of next?!

YELP REVIEWS OF CANADIAN CITIES

Sentences were fused together in some of the reviews. Identify any run-ons or comma splices.

How many of the reviews have no run-ons or comma splices?

Ottawa		Ottawa was the ideal place for our weekend getaway. It's a center of culture and politics there's plenty to see and do.
Toronto		Toronto is often described as "New York City run by the Swiss" it has incredible theater, shopping and restaurants, but the city is clean and the people are friendly.
Montreal		This French-speaking city is the cultural capital of Canada. Make sure to take a horse-drawn carriage ride to experience the sights and the European feel of the city.
Vancouver		Vancouver was the perfect place to enjoy our trip to the outdoors. With snowy mountains, forests, beaches, and water, there was plenty for all the family to do.
Quebec City		Wow - Quebec City is absolutely stunning, we walked for miles to admire the beautiful European-style buildings. Around every corner was another sight to see.
Calgary		We visited during the Calgary Stampede in July. What a crazy time that is! The whole city transforms into a Wild-West inspired playground, rodeos, shows, concerts, and a parade are some of the highlights.

How many of the Yelp reviews have no run-ons?

ALL	1	3	4	2
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
M	A	P	L	E

Scene #5 Toronto Zoo -- Toronto, Canada



It seems that Fraggy Runner sneaked into one of Canada's best zoos before opening time. One of the keepers must have interrupted because Fraggy Runner left without completing the raid.



Gah these pesky animals don't scare me, I'll splice them all to pieces in a flash.

CANADIAN ANIMALS

Match information about the Canadian animals with the explanation of the sentences.

Which of the animals has had its explanation deleted?



Polar bears spend many months of the year hunting in the sea, they can swim and run long distances.



Wolves live all over Canada. The second largest gray wolf population in the world.



The cougar, or mountain lion, is Canada's largest wild cat. Hunt deer, wild sheep, and moose.



The female moose is reported to kill more people in Canada than any other animal they are very protective of their young.



The coast of British Columbia is on the west of Canada; it has one of the highest populations of orca (killer whales) in the world.



After Canada made conservation efforts to protect bison over the last 100 years.

A complete sentence needs a verb, so without a verb it will be a fragment.

A complete sentence needs a subject, so without a subject it will be a fragment.

A complete sentence needs a complete thought, so without that it will be a fragment.

A run-on is two complete sentences that are not separated properly.

A comma splice is two complete sentences separated by a comma.

Which animal's explanation has been deleted?

Polar Bears ↓ P	Wolves ↓ O	Cougar ↓ U	Moose ↓ T	Orca ↓ I	Bison ↓ N, E
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Scene #6 Hockey Hall of Fame -- Toronto, Canada



Fraggy Runner broke into the world's most famous hockey museum and stole five game-used sticks and the Stanley Cup!



That's right, Canada. I know you are going to miss your complete sentences, but I'm going to hit you where it really hurts... your hockey!

HOCKEY IN CANADA

Underline all the fragments, run-ons and comma splices.
Which section has the most of these?

i. Ice hockey started in the 19th century in Canada. The sport is still very popular today and is played all year round. The official national winter sport of Canada. People also think of it as Canada's national hobby. It is loved by men, women, and children, from professionals to beginners.

ii. The game has its roots in the stick and ball games played in the United Kingdom and Europe, from there, the sport of ice hockey was developed in Canada. The first indoor hockey game was played in 1875 at the Victoria Skating Rink in Montreal. Annual championships began in the 1880s and players started being paid in the 1890s.

iii. Ice hockey is one of the most played sports in Canada at a youth level it is also popular for adults to play. In 2010, a survey found that around 22% of Canadian households have a child playing ice hockey. Because hockey equipment can cost so much to buy. It is starting to lose out to other sports like soccer and basketball.

iv. Canada has the leading men's national ice hockey team in the world, they have won the most Olympic gold medals in hockey of any country. This includes golds at the last three Winter Olympics. They have also won the World Championships 26 times. The national women's team has won or come second in almost all international competitions.

Which section has the most fragments, run-ons and comma splices?

iii ↓ B	iv ↓ E, A	i ↓ V	ii ↓ E, R
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CRYPTIC TEXT MESSAGE

Unscramble this if you can.
Is it too late to say I'm sorry now?

TTYL

FRAGGY RUNNER

CSI: LANGUAGE

Fragments, Run-Ons & Comma Splices

Rubric



Skills & Understandings	Exemplary	Proficient	Developing
I can identify and distinguish between fragments, run-ons and comma splices.			
I can understand how to correct fragments and run-ons.			
I can understand punctuation rules including with semi-colon rules.			
I can identify elements missing from a complete sentence.			

COMMENTS: