

EXERCISE G5-5 Sentence fragments Before working this exercise, read section G5 in *A Writer's Reference*, Fifth Edition.

Half of the following word groups are complete sentences. The other half contain fragments. Correct the fragments, and mark the complete sentences "OK." Example:

As a child and a teenager, Ringo Starr spent a total of three years in the hospital, ^{because} ~~Because~~ of two severe health problems.

1. Ringo Starr's first hospitalization lasted for a year. After his appendix burst when he was only six years old.
2. Doctors had to perform several operations; Ringo could not attend school at all that year.
3. His babysitter taught him to read and write, so he did not fall too far behind in his schoolwork.
4. When he was thirteen, Ringo had to go back into the hospital. And stay there for two years while doctors treated a lung condition.
5. Now fifteen, he worked at various jobs. But what he really liked best was playing the drums for his many fans.
6. Teaching himself on drums he bought on the installment plan, he played with different musical groups in Liverpool, including the Beatles.
7. When Ringo joined the Beatles, not everyone was sure that he could handle the job. For example, George Martin, who invited them to London to record.
8. Martin insisted on a standby drummer as insurance. Someone ready to step in just in case Ringo was not good enough.
9. Ringo's many devoted fans were not surprised when he handled the job and became a full-fledged Beatle, making new friends at every engagement.
10. Many people considered him the most likable member of the group. Because of his easy smile and his open approach to life.