2) **Comma splices**: A comma splice is a sentence that joins two independent clauses with only a comma.

Incorrect: *My friends are here, they are eating pizza.*

To correct it, **use coordination**.

Correct: *My friends are here, and they are eating pizza.*

3) **Fragments**: A fragment is a dependent clause used as an independent one. It often starts with a subordinating conjunction.

Incorrect: *After I left.*

To correct it, use **subordination**, and add an independent clause.

Correct: *After I left, I went shopping.*

This handout was prepared using several references.
**Sentence Types:** There are **four** sentence types: **Simple, Compound, Complex, Compound-Complex.**

A sentence has to be complete in meaning.

**Example 1:** I saw a bird. This sentence is complete in meaning. It is an independent clause.

**Example 2:** After I left. This is not a sentence because it is not complete in meaning. It is a dependent clause.

**Simple Sentences**
A simple sentence is an **independent clause.** It has at least one Subject and one Verb.

- *My friends are* here.
- *My friends and I are* here.
- *My friends and I are* here and *are eating* pizza.

**Compound Sentences**
A compound sentence needs two **independent clauses** joined using coordination.

- *My friends are here, and I am* here too.
- *My friends and I are here, and we are eating* pizza.

(For more options on using coordination, check Useful Ways to Join Ideas)

**Complex Sentences:**
A complex sentence needs only one **independent clause and one or more dependent clauses.**

- After I left work, *I visited* my friend who is travelling tomorrow.
(Underlined parts are dependent clauses)

**Compound-Complex Sentences:**
A compound-complex sentence needs at least two **independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.**

- *My friend, who is an engineer, is travelling tomorrow, and he is going* to Italy for two years.
- After I left work, *I visited* my friend who is traveling tomorrow, and *I got* her a gift.

(For more options on using subordination, check Useful Ways to Join Ideas)

**Sentence Errors:**

1) **Run-Ons:** A run-on is a sentence that joins two independent clauses without any punctuation and conjunction.

Incorrect: *My friends are here they are eating pizza.*

To correct it, **use coordination.**

Correct: *My friends are here, and they are eating pizza.*