# Fix the sentence: 20 sentences for kids to correct, with answers

Peabody blog · Teaching · updated 2026-11-10

Twenty sentences for kids to fix, from missing capitals and end marks to run-ons and fragments, with the answers and what each mistake teaches.

Fixing a sentence means checking four things in order: a capital at the start, an end mark, a subject and a verb, and one idea at a time. A child who runs through those four can correct most of the sentences they write. Below are 20 sentences to fix in three levels, with the answers and what each mistake teaches. Peabody's grammar pages have the skills behind them, free through the end of 2026, with no sign-up and no ads.

Do not print all 20 at once. One a day, in order, is plenty.

## The four checks

- Check: 1. A capital at the start · Question to ask: Does the first word start with a capital? Is the word I a capital? Do names have one? · Example of the mistake: the cat sat on the mat.
- Check: 2. An end mark · Question to ask: Does the sentence end with a period, a question mark or an exclamation mark? · Example of the mistake: Where is my shoe
- Check: 3. A subject and a verb · Question to ask: Does it say who or what, and what they do? · Example of the mistake: Ran down the hill.
- Check: 4. One idea at a time · Question to ask: Are two sentences stuck together with no joining word? · Example of the mistake: I like cats I like dogs.

Teach the checks as a list a child can say to themselves: capital, end mark, who does what, one idea.

## Level 1: capitals and end marks (1st and 2nd grade)

- Fix this: the dog ran home · Fixed: The dog ran home. · What it teaches: A capital letter and a period
- Fix this: where is my hat · Fixed: Where is my hat? · What it teaches: A question needs a question mark
- Fix this: watch out · Fixed: Watch out! · What it teaches: A strong feeling takes an exclamation mark
- Fix this: i like pizza. · Fixed: I like pizza. · What it teaches: The word I is always a capital
- Fix this: we went to the park · Fixed: We went to the park. · What it teaches: Capital at the start, period at the end
- Fix this: what a big dog · Fixed: What a big dog! · What it teaches: A big feeling takes an

exclamation mark

• Fix this: can you help me · Fixed: Can you help me? · What it teaches: A question needs a question mark

## Level 2: names, commas in a list, apostrophes (2nd and 3rd grade)

• Fix this: my friend ana has a dog named max. · Fixed: My friend Ana has a dog named Max. · What it teaches: Names of people and pets take a capital

• Fix this: we went to texas in june. · Fixed: We went to Texas in June. · What it teaches: Places and months take a capital

• Fix this: i packed a hat a coat and boots. · Fixed: I packed a hat, a coat and boots. · What it teaches: Commas separate the items in a list

• Fix this: the dogs bone is under the bed. · Fixed: The dog's bone is under the bed. · What it teaches: An apostrophe and s show who owns it

• Fix this: we cant find the key. · Fixed: We can't find the key. · What it teaches: A contraction needs an apostrophe

• Fix this: she bought apples pears and plums. · Fixed: She bought apples, pears and plums. · What it teaches: Commas in a list

• Fix this: the girls room is upstairs. · Fixed: The girl's room is upstairs. · What it teaches: One girl owns the room, so the apostrophe comes before the s

## Level 3: fragments and run-ons (3rd to 5th grade)

• Fix this: Running down the hill. · Fixed: The boy was running down the hill. · What it teaches: A fragment has no subject or no full verb

• Fix this: Because it rained. · Fixed: We stayed in because it rained. · What it teaches: A because part cannot stand alone

• Fix this: I like cats I like dogs. · Fixed: I like cats, and I like dogs. · What it teaches: A run-on joins two sentences with nothing between them

• Fix this: The soup was hot we waited. · Fixed: The soup was hot, so we waited. · What it teaches: A comma and a joining word fix a run-on

• Fix this: When the bell rang. · Fixed: When the bell rang, we lined up. · What it teaches: A leaning idea needs a main idea

• Fix this: My sister plays soccer she is fast. · Fixed: My sister plays soccer. She is fast. · What it teaches: Two ideas can be two sentences

That is seven, seven and six, which makes 20. In level 3, more than one fix is possible, so accept any answer that makes a complete sentence.

## How to use them

1. One a day. Read the sentence aloud first. Reading it aloud helps a child hear where it stops and where it feels wrong.
2. Let the child be the editor. Give them a coloured pencil and let them mark the changes. Your job is to ask "What can you fix?"
3. Go to the skill page if one trips them up. The capital letters page and the end marks page cover level 1, the subject and predicate page covers fragments, and the fix the sentence page covers the whole set.
4. Turn it around. Let the child write one broken sentence about a story from the library for you to fix. Children love catching a grown-up out.

Peabody does not have a fix the sentence game. What it has is a page for each skill, flashcards linked from each page, and the grammar hub.

## Questions grown-ups ask

### What is a run-on sentence?

A run-on sentence joins two complete sentences with no end mark or joining word between them, such as "I like cats I like dogs". Fix it with a period, or with a comma and a word such as and, but or so.

### What is a sentence fragment?

A fragment is a group of words that is missing a subject, a verb or a complete idea, such as "Ran down the hill" or "Because it rained". It needs the missing piece to be a sentence.

### What grade do kids learn to edit sentences?

Children fix capitals and end marks in 1st and 2nd grade. Complete sentences, fragments and run-ons are named in the 4th grade standards (L.4.1f), though many teachers start earlier.

### How many should a child do a day?

One, or at most three. A short daily habit builds the checking skill better than a long worksheet once a week.

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Free at peabody.kids/blog/fix-the-sentence-practice-for-kids