Center for Academic Learning (CAL) 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Gurley Hall 2205/2210 <u>http:///www.gallup.unm.edu/cal</u> <u>http://fb.me/UNMGCAL</u> Mon-Fri, 8:00am-5:00pm



### Fragments and Run-On Sentences .....

### What is a fragment?

A fragment is an incomplete sentence because it lacks a subject, verb, or both. It also does not express a *complete thought*, and begs for more information.

# Basic components of a complete sentence:

- ✓ Subject (who/what the sentence is about; the actor in the sentence)
- Predicate (verb or action; what the subject is doing)

#### **Fragment:**

Because his car was in the shop.

#### Sentence:

John took the bus because his car was in the shop.

#### What is a run-on sentence?

Run-on sentences are two complete sentences written into one sentence without joining them properly with coordinating conjunctions or punctuation.

#### Ways to correct run-ons:

- ✓ Use a comma and coordinating conjunction
- $\checkmark$  Use a semicolon
- ✓ Use a period to separate into two sentences
- $\checkmark$  Use a long dash

## Run-on: My favorite food is pizza I could eat it every day.

Comma &	My favorite food is pizza <mark>, and</mark> I
Coordinating	could eat it every day.
Conjunction	
Semicolon	My favorite food is pizza <mark>;</mark> I
	could eat it every day.
<b>Period/Separate</b>	My favorite food is pizza. I
Sentences	could eat it every day.
Long Dash	My favorite food is pizza—I
	could eat it every day.

Related Quick Guides: Commas, Semicolons, Colons, and Dashes