Sentence Structure

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| *Type of sentence structure* | *Examples* | *Effect* |
| Fragment – an incomplete sentence | “Kind of makes you think.”  “The jerk.” | -casual, informal  -conversational  -sometimes startling  -causes the reader to stop  -often used in contrast to longer sentences  -a series of fragments helps to create a rough, uncomfortable tone |
| Short sentence – usually one subject, one verb | “We went.”  “You could hear the train.” | -when used after or in the middle of a series of long sentences, the contrast can add emphasis to the idea in the short sentence  -moves action along quickly when combined with several other short sentences  -can create a blunt, harsh tone |
| Long sentence – multiple subjects or multiple verbs | “When we were younger, Gene used to make me go beserk by holding me under the covers, or stuffing a pillow in my face, or locking me in the garage whenever he got the chance.” | -adds descriptive details  -can create atmosphere  -can build suspense |