Underline the subjects once and the verbs twice.

1. He depends on her in times of need.
2. Watch your step. ("You" is the implied subject)
3. The insurance agent gave her sound advice.
4. On the table was her purse.
5. In the newspaper, an interesting article appeared.
6. “Look before you leap”, she told me loudly.
7. Across the road lived her boyfriend.
8. We are forced to inhale and exhale this smog-filled air.
9. In the gutter, I found a shiny new dime.
10. Around my vintage car I keep a guard dog that barks and growls.
11. Every one of the roses bloomed.

Underline the subjects once and the verbs twice.

1. This gorgeous Steinway piano is tuned to perfection.
2. Every environmental regulation has been undermined by that industry.
3. My gift for walking and talking simultaneously did not go unnoticed.
4. Your red scarf matches your eyes.
5. Every attempt to flatter him failed miserably.
6. Charlie and his friends ran and splashed in the puddles that flooded the path.
7. If all is lost, why am I still playing?
8. Jeff longed for a pity party after he lost his job.
9. Have you memorized all the chemical symbols on the chart?
10. Buses has only one s in the middle of it.
11. Please answer the question without smirking. ("You" implied)
The sentences below appeared in papers written by students. Act as their editor, marking a C if the sentences in the group are all complete and an F if any of the sentences in the group is a fragment. Could you tell these writers why the fragments are incomplete sentences?

F  Then I attended Morris Junior High. A junior high that was a bad experience.

F  The scene was filled with beauty. Such as the sun sending its brilliant rays to the earth and the leaves of various shades of red, yellow, and brown moving slowly in the wind.

C  He talked for fifty minutes without taking his eyes off his notes. Like other teachers in that department, he did not encourage students’ questions.

C  A few of the less serious fellows would go into a bar for a steak dinner and a few glasses of beer. After this meal, they were ready for anything.

C  It can be really embarrassing to be so emotional. Especially when you are on your first date, you feel that you should be in control.

F  In the seventh grade every young boy goes out for football. To prove to himself and his parents that he is a man.

F  She opened the door and let us into her home. Not realizing at the time that we would never enter that door in her home again.

C  As Christmas grows near, I find myself looking back into my childhood days at fun-filled times of snowball fights. To think about this makes me happy.

F  Making up his mind quickly. Jim ordered two dozen red roses for his wife. Hoping she would accept his apology.

F  They were all having a good time. Until one of Joe’s oldest and best friends had a little too much to drink.

C  With my brother standing by my side, I reached for the pot handle. Tilting the pot way too much caused the boiling water to spill.

F  The small, one-story houses are all the same size and style. With no difference except the color.

F  Being a friend of mine like he was when we first joined the soccer team. Together we learned a lot.
After each sentence, select the option which best describes that sentence. The first option will always be that the sentence is fine. Other options will not only define the structural flaw but suggest a way of fixing it. Choose the option with the best remedy.

Although he had been an often decorated soldier during World War II and had fought many battles for the losing cause of liberalism in Congress.
A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
B. Run-on: put a comma after World War II.
C. Run-on: put a semicolon after World War II.
D. Fragment: put a comma after Congress and finish the sentence with the rest of the idea.

This is going to be the most difficult exam of your high school career, you had better start studying for it immediately.
A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
B. Fragment: put a comma after immediately and finish the sentence.
C. Run-on: replace that comma with a semicolon.

Knowing how much she wanted to meet the band, but worrying that she would embarrass everyone in the process given her history of squealing loudly and kissing everything in sight whenever she got over excited, not to mention her habit of taking pictures when you weren't ready for them, I hesitated to tell her I had backstage passes for the One Direction show.
A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
B. This sentence is too long; it must be a run-on.
C. Even though this sentence is very long, it is actually a fragment.

She ran.
A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
B. Fragment: the sentence is too short and needs more details to be a complete thought.

Becky really wants this job, she is looking forward to the possibility of having free ice cream whenever she wants it.
A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
B. Fragment: put a comma after job.
C. Run-on: change that comma to a period and start a new sentence.
Right after the Christmas holidays and during those three weeks before class begins in January.  
A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.  
B. Fragment: put a comma after January and finish the sentence.  
C. Run-on: put a comma after holidays.

Perplexed by the rising rates of inflation and alarmed by the decline in major construction projects.  
A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.  
B. Run-on: put a comma after inflation.  
C. Fragment: put a comma after projects and finish the sentence.

Anabel realizes what she is doing, but she doing it anyway.  
A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.  
B. Fragment: we’re missing part of a verb.  
C. Run-on: change the comma after doing to a semicolon.