The Postcondition

Loops end when reaching their bounds. <mark>**not** when they've **reached the goal!**</mark>
After the loop is over, you have to ask yourself: "<mark>**Has my loop reached its goal?**</mark>"

In our case, the problem asked us to count the period as well, and we haven't done that. So, after the loop is over we'll have to add a <mark>**postcondition**</mark> statement like this:

```
str <- string supplied to the problem
counter <- 0
pos <- 0
letter <- str.at(pos)
while letter is not a period
{
    counter <- counter + 1
    pos <- pos + 1
    letter <-> str.at(pos)
}
Step 6: The Loop Postcondition (reached the goal?)
counter <- counter + 1  // count the period
// Now the variable counter contains our goal
```

Now our loop has correctly counted the number of characters in the first sentence. <mark>**Or has it?**</mark> Next we'll look at two small details that I glossed over.