

Comma Splices & Run-On Sentences 1

A comma splice is a sentence error that results when two independent clauses are joined together with only a comma. A run-on sentence results when two independent clauses are joined without any punctuation. Both of these errors can be corrected in one of several ways. Turn to page 84 in *Writers INC*.

Place an **RO** in front of each run-on sentence, a **CS** in front of each comma splice, and a **C** in front of each correct sentence. Correct each faulty sentence. Use the proofreading marks inside the back cover of *Writers INC*.

- CS 1. I never really enjoyed science, ^{(or) M} math is my favorite subject.
- ___ 2. By the time we arrived, the show was nearly over, we missed everything but the credits and the cartoon.
- ___ 3. Don't touch that chair it has just been painted.
- ___ 4. I got an "A" on my English test. I've never gotten one before.
- ___ 5. Some students would rather goof around than study, some adults went through the same thing when they were in school.
- ___ 6. Some run-on sentences are easy to recognize, others are much more difficult.
- ___ 7. Joan's mother works at the hospital her father works at the school.
- ___ 8. John had to go to his violin lesson, however, he will stop by when he is through.
- ___ 9. Katrin enjoys shopping for clothes, especially when someone else is paying for them.
- ___ 10. Time goes slowly when you are working, it seems to fly when you are playing.
- ___ 11. Akira will meet us at the skating rink later; he has to go home to pick up his skates.

Extend: Write two run-on sentences and two sentences with a comma splice. Exchange papers with a classmate and correct each other's sentence errors.

Comma Splices & Run-On Sentences 2

There are three basic ways to correct comma splices and run-ons: (1) use a comma and a coordinating conjunction, (2) use a semicolon, or (3) make the clauses into separate sentences. Turn to page 84 in *Writers INC*.

Correct the following sentences by inserting a semicolon, a period and a capital letter, or a comma and a coordinating conjunction. Use each method at least twice.

1. Psychology is the science that studies all kinds of behavior. ^Tthe behavior may be normal, ^{or} the behavior may be abnormal.
2. Psychologists try to find answers to questions about thoughts, feelings, and actions and their findings help us understand why people behave as they do.
3. In the late 1800s, psychology developed into a science based on observation and experimentation prior to that, there were no systematic studies of the mind.
4. Sigmund Freud introduced the theory that behavior is determined by the unconscious mind he developed techniques to uncover repressed feelings.
5. Many psychologists disagree with some of Freud's ideas most accept that the unconscious has a major effect on behavior.
6. Cognitive psychologists concentrate on thinking processes and self-awareness, they believe there's more to human nature than a response to a stimulus.
7. Humanistic psychologists trust that people's values and choices affect their behavior they believe the psychologist helps people to realize their unique possibilities.
8. Understanding of individuals and groups has broadened because of these psychological studies, the insights from these studies can benefit people in their everyday lives.

Extend: Write three run-on sentences about whatever you believe influences your behavior. Exchange papers with a classmate and correct each other's work.