Run-On Sentences

A run-on sentence is a sentence in which two or more independent clauses are joined without either a semi-colon or a comma with a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).

There are two types of run-on sentences:

- fused sentences
- comma splices

A **fused sentence** happens when independent clauses are merged without any punctuation or coordinating conjunctions.

  Example: The boy is sad he is crying.

A **comma splice** occurs when two or more independent clauses are joined only by a comma.

  Example: The boy is sad, he is crying.

There are several ways to correct a run-on sentence:

- Break the run-on sentence into two separate sentences. E.g. The boy is sad. He is crying.
- Join the two clauses with a comma and a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so). E.g. The boy is sad, so he is crying.
- Join the two clauses with a semi-colon. E.g. The boy is sad; he is crying.
- Join the two clauses with a semi-colon and a conjunctive adverb such as therefore, nevertheless, however, as a result, in any case, moreover, consequently, and thus. E.g. The boy is sad; therefore, he is crying.
- Change one of the two independent clauses into a dependent clause. E.g. The boy is crying because he is sad.