

Run-On Sentences

MRHS English Tutorial
2008

What is a Run-On Sentence?

- ◉ A run-on sentence is one that contains two improperly joined sentences.
- ◉ These sentences are joined but they could stand alone. They are called INDEPENDENT CLAUSES.

Another Independent Claus



Get Your Run-On

- ◉ There are two types of run-on sentences:
 - Fused Sentences
 - Comma Splices

Fused Sentences

- ◉ Occurs when two sentences are joined without any punctuation
- ◉ Example:
 - Some students think they can study for an important exam by 'cramming' all night **they are probably wrong.**

Comma Splices

- ◉ Occur when two independent sentences are joined with only a comma.
- ◉ Example:
 - The teacher told the students to complete the section on comma splices, **she also told them to compose a five-paragraph essay.**

Correcting Run-Ons

Four of Them!

Use a Period Between Sentences!

- ◉ Miranda was the lead vocalist in her band
it was a punk rock band.
- Miranda was the lead vocalist in her band. It was a punk rock band.
- Miranda was the lead vocalist in her punk rock band.

Use a Semicolon to Link!

- ◉ Some students think they can study for an important exam by 'cramming' all night they are probably wrong.
- Some students think they can study for an important exam by 'cramming' all night; they are probably wrong.

Use a Comma and Coordinating Conjunction

- ◉ **Coordinating Conjunctions:**
 - and, but, yet, for, or, nor, so
- ◉ First I went to the grocery store then I went to the library.
- First I went to the grocery store, and then I went to the library.

Add a Subordinating Conjunction or Dependent Word

- ◉ Some common subordinating conjunctions:
 - After, although, before, unless, as, because, even though, if, since, until, when, while
- ◉ Maria and John like skiing Karen does not.
- Although Maria and John like skiing, Karen does not.

And Now You'll Never Write
Another Run-On Sentence as
Long as You Live...

...or else...