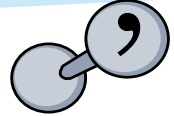


Correcting Comma Splices

Run-on sentences are sentences that have a punctuation error. A comma splice is a type of run-on sentence. A comma splice happens when two independent clauses have been joined together with only a comma. A comma is not “strong” enough to connect two independent clauses. They need something more powerful.



Example: My mother is a police officer, she loves her job.

The two independent clauses are “My mother is a police officer” and “She loves her job.”

There are several ways to correct a comma splice.

A) Use a powerful period to make the two independent clauses separate sentences.



Example: My mother is a police officer. She loves her job.

B) Add some power by joining the two sentences with a coordinating conjunction and a comma. The coordinating conjunctions are *for*, *and*, *nor*, *but*, *or*, *yet*, and *so*.

Example: My mother is a police officer, and she loves her job.



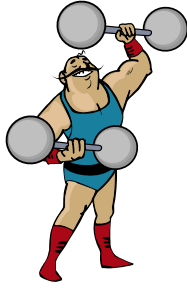
C) Use the powerful semicolon.

Example: My mother is a police officer; she loves her job.



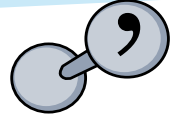
Rewrite the sentences below. Correct each of the comma splices by using one of the ways mentioned above.

1. It was a warm day, the children were ready to play outside.
2. She can come with us, she can stay here.
3. If you are ready to go, let's leave right away, we won't be late.
4. Rupert ran to the cabin, no one was there.
5. As they walked through the woods, they saw a large deer, it ran away quickly.
6. The dog was keeping guard, it never heard the burglar.



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C) Use the powerful semicolon.

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Rewrite the sentences below. Correct each of the comma splices by using one of the ways mentioned above.

1. It was a warm day, the children were ready to play outside.

**Actual student's answers will vary. Example of correct answers:
It was a warm day. The children wanted to play outside.**

2. She can come with us, she can stay here.

She can come with us, or she can stay here.

3. If you are ready to go, let's leave right away, we won't be late.

If you are ready to go, let's leave right away, so we won't be late.

4. Rupert ran to the cabin, no one was there.

Rupert ran to the cabin. No one was there.

5. As they walked through the woods, they saw a large deer, it ran away quickly.

As they walked through the woods, they saw a large deer; it ran away quickly.

6. The dog was keeping guard, it never heard the burglar.

The dog was keeping guard, yet it never heard the burglar.