

RUN-ON SENTENCES

A run-on sentence occurs when two or more independent clauses are not joined correctly.

An independent clause is a group of words that can stand alone as a sentence, as in, "The dog runs." Your writing may be confusing or unclear if independent clauses are joined incorrectly.

There are three types of run-on sentences.

A fused sentence occurs when independent clauses run together with NO MARKS of punctuation or coordinating conjunctions to separate them.

Fused sentence: My professor read my paper she said it was excellent.
independent clause independent clause

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

Comma splice: My cat meowed angrily, I knew she wanted food.
independent clause independent clause

A no comma run-on sentence is when two or more independent clauses are joined by a conjunction without a comma

No comma: I went to the store and I bought a loaf of bread and then I went home.
independent clause independent clause independent clause

SENTENCE FRAGMENTS AND RUN-ONS

Identify each group of words below. Fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

1. Writing is similar to other work.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
2. Writing demands energy it requires focus.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
3. Three or four hours a day writing.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
4. Start with a great idea, some ideas come from memories.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
5. Language and words and ideas.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
6. Make sure to set aside time for writing.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
7. Read the story aloud and see how it sounds add more if necessary.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
8. May need to add more.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
9. Sometimes special research is necessary sometimes imagination is enough.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence
10. When growing up.
 - (a) fragment
 - (b) run-on
 - (c) correct sentence