

22.4 Run-ons (Recognizing Run-ons) • Practice 1

Recognizing Run-ons A run-on sentence is two or more complete sentences that are not properly joined or separated; that is, they are not separated by an end mark, or they are separated only by a comma.

RUN-ONS
The coals are ready now we can begin cooking.
The lettuce is thriving, the broccoli is straggly.

Exercise 1 Identifying Run-ons. Identify each item as a run-on or a sentence in each space to the right.

- EXAMPLE: David has a new camera, but he forgot to bring it. sentence
- Emily Dickinson wrote most of her poems without leaving her room. _____
 - The children played in the back yard, the swings and sandbox amused them. _____
 - We got three easy outs our team was up. _____
 - Louise did a wonderful job, we knew she would. _____
 - Amanda stepped through the gate and into a beautiful garden. _____
 - The TV series was excellent, but it never found its audience. _____
 - Billy wanted to be an actor, jobs were hard to get. _____
 - Languages are not easy for me I do better in math. _____
 - Several new families live on our block, we have been here longer. _____
 - Lisa left early, but no one knew why. _____
 - Although we all were hungry, we waited patiently. _____
 - The architects have worked hard the lowest bid will get the job. _____
 - The cove is quite pretty, it is rocky at low tide. _____
 - The audience applauded when the curtain fell. _____
 - The boat docked, all the passengers got off. _____
 - The family reunion was a much greater success than we had expected. _____
 - No one liked our new neighbors, they made incredible noises. _____
 - Jack listens to the radio all the time except when Laura turns it off. _____
 - Kurt didn't know what he wanted to do; however, Carla had plans. _____
 - She loved science, nevertheless she failed the test. _____

Exercise 2 Identifying Run-ons in a Paragraph. Underline each run-on in the paragraph below.

EXAMPLE: Our new house is finally finished, we moved in last week. There is still much to be done.

(1) Some rooms still need painting not all the light fixtures are in. (2) However, even more work needs to be done outside. (3) In clearing the lot, the builders razed all the trees. (4) We have ordered new trees and shrubs, they will be delivered this weekend. (5) After the nursery has planted them, we can begin thinking about flowers. (6) Rick and I have picked out a perfect spot for a vegetable garden, Dad has other ideas. (7) Mom plans a flower bed in front there is a perfect sunny spot for it. (8) We have already put in grass seed, it needs to be watered every day. (9) Soon we will have a beautiful yard. (10) It is hard work every bit is worth it.

22.4 Run-ons (Recognizing Run-ons) • Practice 2

Exercise 1 Identifying Run-ons. Identify each item as a run-on or a sentence.

- EXAMPLE: Although he disliked her, he was polite. sentence
- Queen Mary slowly entered the huge hall in silence the crowd gathered there gazed at the woman who was about to be executed. _____
 - Forced onto the sidelines by his torn ligament, Jack was restless and unhappy. _____
 - Keats came into the house from the garden and casually threw down some paper, on it was written "Ode on a Grecian Urn." _____
 - Lord Rosse built a telescope in Ireland in 1845, it was often inactive because of poor Irish weather. _____
 - Though billions of comets circle beyond the edges of our solar system, few come close to the earth. _____
 - Wind and water are major causes of erosion of the soil, they constantly change the appearance of the Earth's surface. _____
 - Shrimp eggs can survive for over one year in the desert sands, rainwater brings them to life. _____
 - March is the month when huge blocks of ice in the Arctic begin to melt and break up. _____
 - In drawings by young children, sizes and shapes of objects often look wrong. _____
 - Deserts turn cold at night, there is nothing to stop the heat from escaping into the atmosphere. _____
 - My grandmother loved *Gone with the Wind* she read it years ago. _____
 - Lightning turns nitrogen in the air into an oxide, it then falls with the rain and fertilizes the soil. _____
 - The famous Irish writer James Joyce left his native land in 1902 at various times he lived in the cities of Paris, Trieste, and Zurich. _____
 - For the last fifty years of his life, the poet Robinson Jeffers lived in a tower on the California coast. _____
 - When the bases are loaded and two players are already out, baseball is at its most exciting. _____
 - National parks in this country were established to protect wildlife, preserve natural resources, and provide recreational areas. _____
 - Crater Lake in the state of Oregon is a unique tourist attraction, it fills a crater on top of an inactive volcano. _____
 - The typical sonnet has fourteen lines, ten syllables make up each line. _____
 - The sun's rays striking raindrops can produce a rainbow you can see it if the sun is behind you and the rain is ahead of you. _____
 - Roosters begin to crow at dawn, they seem to bring the farm to life. _____

Exercise 1 Preparing to Correct Run-ons. If a word group below is a run-on sentence, insert a caret (^) between the two sentences or independent clauses. If a sentence is correct, write C after it.

EXAMPLE: The truck amazed the group ^ they had never seen anything like it.

- Senator Hill was the graduation speaker he talked about responsibility. _____
- The base of the Statue of Liberty is granite which came from Stony Creek, Connecticut. _____
- Several council members opposed the tax, they voted against it. _____
- Many cactuses are odd-looking plants they have beautiful blossoms. _____
- The owner offered a handsome reward no trace of the show dog was found. _____
- The troops had no defense they were completely surrounded. _____
- Without saying a word, the messenger handed me an envelope. _____
- Lighthouse keepers have a lonely life they do important work. _____
- We rounded the bend, the castle came into view. _____
- Judy recognized the bike at once it was the one she had sold last week. _____

Exercise 2 Correcting Run-ons. Rewrite five run-ons from Exercise 1. Use each method of rewriting noted in the chart.

EXAMPLE: The truck amazed the group, who had never seen anything like it.

END MARK	What do you think will we win? What do you think? Will we win?
COMMA AND COORDINATING CONJUNCTION	Kelly came with us, Sue stayed home.
SEMICOLON	The food was delicious the service was excellent.
ONE SIMPLE SENTENCE	The jet was a 747, it landed gracefully.
ONE COMPLEX SENTENCE	Although we lost the game, we had played our best.
ONE COMPLEX SENTENCE	We lost the game we had played our best.

22.4 Run-ons (Correcting Run-ons) • Practice 2

Exercise 1 Using Punctuation and Conjunctions to Correct Run-ons. Use an end mark, a comma and a coordinating conjunction, or a semicolon to correct each run-on. Use each method at least once.

- EXAMPLE: The cash was hidden in a rusty tin can nobody thought to look inside it.
- The cash was hidden in a rusty tin can, but nobody thought to look inside it.
- I could hardly wait to jump in the water looked so inviting. _____
 - They seemed to expect me to babysit again, I wouldn't do it for any price. _____
 - A stray dog wandered onto the field, the outfielder tried to catch it. _____
 - We spent hours searching for the car keys we never found them. _____
 - Would you care for French dressing on your salad, would you prefer it unseasoned? _____

Exercise 2 Forming Simple and Complex Sentences to Correct Run-ons. Form a simple or complex sentence to correct each run-on. Use each method at least two times.

- EXAMPLE: The sun set, the forest was quiet.
- When the sun set, the forest was quiet.
- Mr. Adams was a candidate for mayor, he spoke to many community organizations. _____
 - The iguana raced across the yard it was a family pet. _____
 - The snow was piled around the parked cars, it made it impossible for us to leave. _____
 - The child was delighted with the gift, he began to play with it right away. _____
 - I couldn't handle the luggage alone I had three suitcases and a small trunk. _____

Writing Application Correcting Run-ons. Rewrite the following paragraphs, correcting all run-ons.

- After flying through a dense, seemingly endless cloud bank, the shuttle plane with its pilot, co-pilot, and three nervous passengers was lost. (2) The pilot could not recognize any landmarks, the co-pilot could not recognize any either. (3) One of the passengers, a young girl, entered the pilot's cabin and asked if she could help. (4) Although worried, the pilot smiled, he was very good-natured.
- The girl explained that she recognized the terrain her father had taken her camping in these hills just last summer. (6) "If you turn slightly and fly over that far ridge," explained the girl, "you will see a highway. (7) Follow it west it will lead toward Pescadora."
- The pilot and co-pilot thanked the girl and complimented her on her keen sense of direction. (9) Their praises pleased the girl, they also gave her an idea. (10) As soon as she finished school, she would