

What Is a Run-on Sentence?

Form A

A **run-on sentence** occurs when two or more sentences are strung together without punctuation or are separated by only a comma. Run-on errors can be corrected by using a period, a semicolon, a semicolon and a conjunctive adverb, or a conjunction.

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| Run-on | Ray had lost his house key he was locked out. |
| Correct | Ray had lost his house key. He was locked out. |
| Correct | Ray had lost his house key; he was locked out. |

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|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Run-on | Chris is on vacation, she won't be joining us. |
| Correct | Chris is on vacation; therefore, she won't be joining us. |
| Correct | Chris is on vacation, and she won't be joining us. |

A. Identifying Run-on Sentences

Identify each sentence as either **Run-on** or **Correct**.

1. Driving was fun there wasn't much traffic. _____
2. The rookie running back carried the ball, he made a touchdown. _____
3. Kendra chose her courses wisely. _____
4. All watched the launching it was spectacular. _____
5. One disc jockey reads letters he also jokes with callers. _____
6. The paddle-wheel steamboat still operates it's the *Delta Queen*. _____
7. A motorcycle turned into the alley it skidded on the gravel. _____
8. Glass is a common, inexpensive material with many practical uses. _____
9. Tony wants bigger biceps he lifts barbells every day. _____
10. I heard the term *a mackerel sky* for the first time today. _____

B. Correcting Run-on Sentences

Correct the following run-on sentences by using correct punctuation and capitalization.

1. Last summer we camped we had the best vacation ever. _____

2. We saw an old Hitchcock film, it was a classic thriller. _____

3. Diane tried to skate backwards, she ended up with a badly sprained arm. _____

4. Burnett noticed the leaves of the bush he realized that it was a poisonous plant. _____
