

Name _____

Date _____

Avoiding Run-On Sentences

Run-on sentences occur when two or more independent clauses are not joined together properly. These mistakes often happen when:

- The new thought begins with a pronoun.
- The new thought begins with a transitional expression or conjunctive adverb.
- The new thought begins with a directional word such as then.

There are four ways of correcting run-on sentences:

- Separate the two sentences using a period.
(Ex: The math test was very short. It had only 10 questions.)
- Make a compound sentence.
(Ex: Sammy enjoys going to the movies, but I enjoy staying home.)
- Connect the two ideas with a semi-colon.
(Ex: The math test was very short; it only had 10 questions.)
- Create a complex sentence.
(Ex: I like to play tennis; however, Ally likes to play basketball.)
(Ex: Although I enjoy knitting, I don't do it very often.)

Direction: Correctly punctuation the run-on sentences. If it is correct, write C beside it.

1. The thunder frightened the horses therefore they ran to the barn.
2. The green paint is a horrible color, I don't want it on my walls.
3. Zero multiplied by any number equals zero so those facts are easy to learn.
4. My neighbor went to China then she decided she wanted to move there.
5. Tommy was in the bedroom, he didn't see Chipper hit the grand slam.

Directions: On the blank line after each word group, write an independent clause beginning with the word printed in parentheses. Add connectors and proper punctuation and capitalization.

6. I didn't study for my test _____ (therefore)
7. Cindy tasted the pie _____ (it)
8. I told everyone to hurry _____ (they)
9. Harry over a nail _____ (then)
10. I am never late _____ (yet)