

Grammar Practice

Name Class Date

13.10 Run-on Sentences

Key Information

A run-on sentence consists of two or more complete sentences presented as though they were one sentence.	NO PUNCTUATION:	I gave the first speech I was nervous.
There are three basic types of run-on sentences.	CORRECTED:	I gave the first speech. I was nervous.
COMMA SPLICE: I called Mark with the news, he called Sara.	CORRECTED:	I gave the first speech; I was nervous.
CORRECTED: I called Mark with the news. Then he called Sara.	CORRECTED:	I gave the first speech, and I was nervous.
CORRECTED: I called Mark with the news, and then he called Sara.	NO COMMA BEFORE THE CONJUNCTION:	My sister drives to school each day but I still take the bus.
	CORRECTED:	My sister drives to school each day, but I still take the bus.

A. Identifying Run-on Sentences

Write whether each of the following sentences is a *run-on* or a *correct* sentence.

- correct run-on 1. Many jazz critics consider Duke Ellington's big band the most talented group of all time, some think Count Basie's band was more exciting.
- correct run-on 2. The bands' differences could be seen in their leaders, for Ellington was sophisticated and sometimes very showy while Basie was less pretentious and more direct.
- correct run-on 3. Despite these differences an amazing event occurred in 1961 when the two entire bands played together in a New York recording studio it was the first and last time the bands ever combined their talents.
- correct run-on 4. The members of both all-star bands crammed into the studio, and the Count and the Duke sat across from each other at twin grand pianos.
- correct run-on 5. The recording that resulted from this collaboration is truly a classic, it was as if the two great basketball players Larry Bird and Michael Jordan teamed up only once to play on the same team.

B. Correcting Run-on Sentences

Choose any two of the sentences above that you identified as run-ons, and write correct versions of them. *Answers will vary.*
