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.

There are three basic types of run-on sentences.

COMMA SPLICE:	I called Mark with the news, he called Sara.
CORRECTED:	I called Mark with the news. Then he called Sara.
CORRECTED:	I called Mark with the news, and then he called Sara.
NO PUNCTUATION:	I gave the first speech I was nervous.
CORRECTED:	I gave the first speech. I was nervous.
CORRECTED:	I gave the first speech; I was nervous.
CORRECTED:	I gave the first speech, and I was nervous.
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.

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