

Name _____

- A **run-on sentence** results when two main or independent clauses are joined with no punctuation or coordinating conjunction.
- A run-on sentence may be two main clauses separated by only a comma, two main clauses with no punctuation between them, or two main clauses with no comma before the coordinating conjunction.

Read each sentence. If the sentence is correct, write **C** on the line. If it is a run-on sentence, write **R**.

1. The blue jay is one of the many birds native to North America it is a member of the crow family. _____
2. Blue jays can be aggressive and they often chase other smaller birds. _____
3. Blue jays are known to sound an alarm for other birds when a predator is near. _____
4. Blue jays are slow fliers hawks and owls can usually catch them easily. _____
5. Blue jays are protective of their nests, they can be aggressive toward humans who come too close. _____
6. Blue jays have a reputation for raiding nests and stealing eggs, but this behavior may not be very common. _____
7. Young blue jays like to find and carry around brightly colored objects. _____
8. The blue jay is an omnivore it eats animals, grains, nuts, seeds, and fruit. _____

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- The use of a comma in a run-on sentence that has two main clauses is called a **comma splice**.
- To correct a comma splice, replace the comma with a period and create two sentences.

Read each sentence. Put a **C** on the line after each correct sentence. Rewrite sentences that have a comma splice. Correct the comma splice by creating two sentences.

1. The Mustangs are a high school football team in our town, they are one of the top teams in the conference. _____
2. My cousin, Preston, plays for the Mustangs, he is a linebacker. _____
3. The Mustangs play in a stadium on Highland Drive, beside the school. _____
4. Football is popular in our town, almost everyone attends the Friday night games. _____
5. Our biggest rivals are the Clarksville Hurricanes, they are last year's champions. _____
6. The Mustangs play Clarksville next week, and we will see an exciting game. _____

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- Correct a run-on sentence by dividing it into two sentences.
- Correct a run-on sentence by changing it into a compound sentence connected by a comma and a coordinating conjunction.
- Correct a run-on sentence by inserting a semicolon or a conjunction.

Rewrite each run-on sentence correctly.

1. Scientists study wildlife in order to protect it the study of the cheetah is an example.

2. The cheetah is found mainly in Africa it is also found in parts of the Middle East.

3. The cheetah has been called a natural running machine it is able to reach speeds of 60 to 70 miles per hour.

4. Its feet have large pads with sharp edges these special pads help the cheetah grip the ground.

5. The cheetah is an endangered species it is even extinct in India and Northern Africa.

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- A **run-on sentence** results when two main or independent clauses are joined with no punctuation or coordinating conjunction. The use of a comma in a run-on sentence that has two main clauses is called a **comma splice**.
- To correct a comma splice, replace the comma with a period and create two sentences.
- Correct a run-on sentence by dividing it into two sentences or changing it into a compound sentence connected by a comma and a coordinating conjunction.
- Correct a comma splice with a semicolon or a conjunction with the comma.

Proofread each sentence. Rewrite each sentence correctly, correcting run-on sentences and comma splices.

1. Manuel's grandfather, Popi, is always telling stories about his childhood, he was born in Mexico.

2. Popi is a small man he is strong and muscular.

3. His eyesight is poor he wears glasses with thick plastic lenses.

4. Popi's English is perfect he still speaks with a slight accent.

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Rewrite each run-on sentence, adding the punctuation and conjunctions shown in parentheses.

1. Molly has the most amazing collection of seashells she has collected them for years. (add a semicolon)

2. Molly lives in Florida she picks up shells every time she walks on the beach. (Add a period)

3. Molly's collection is the largest one I have ever seen she must have hundreds of shells. (add a semicolon)

4. My favorite is the large conch shell it sounds like ocean waves when you hold it next to your ear. (Add a comma and the conjunction *because*.)

5. Sometimes Molly uses her small shells to decorate boxes and picture frames then she sells them in her father's shop. (Add a comma and the conjunction *and*.)

