

Key

### LEVEL 1 - RUN-ONS AND COMMA SPLICES

Directions: **Identify** if the sentence has a **comma splice (CS)** or if it is a **run-on (RO)**. Circle where the error occurs, and if possible, fix the sentence to be correct.

CS 1. Julie is a real hypochondriac when her stomach hurts, she is certain that she has a bleeding ulcer, and if she has a backache, she believes that she has cancer of the spine.

RO 2. My cat Buster loves to nap on warm appliances when he sleeps on top of the television, his tail swipes the screen like a windshield wiper.

CS 3. During English class, Anthony kept flirting with RaShaunda because his behavior was keeping Shenicka from understanding the lecture, Shenicka whacked him over the head with her heavy dictionary.

CS 4. In preparation for the quiz, La'Mia studied comma splices and fused sentences until she thought her brain would burst, finally, she put away her notes, convinced that she would remember the rules even on her death bed.

CS 5. At the back of the classroom, Nina sat with her arms crossed, glaring at her teacher, Mr. Beane, her body language indicated that English was her least favorite subject.

CS 6. When Matt shaved his head, his mother worried that he had joined a cult the real reason for the bald head, however, was that Matt could get more attention and sympathy from girls who thought he was sick with a dread disease. ~~A. comma splice~~  
~~B. fused sentence~~

CS 7. Mike loves to play computer games, especially Tomb Raider, he imagines that all of the villains are his problems, and he gets great satisfaction blasting them to bits.

CS 8. Cindy's mumbling often gets her in trouble just the other day, in fact, her stylist misunderstood Cindy's instructions and dyed her hair blue after Cindy asked him to trim the ends.

CS 9. Clyde knew that he should be saving money for next semester's tuition he spent every paycheck, however, on gold jewelry and expensive dinners for his greedy girlfriend Gloria.

RO 10. At the campus coffee cart, Gini makes the best drinks her sweet cream latte, a blend of vanilla ice cream and espresso, will put on the pounds, but its cool, smooth taste is worth a trip to the gym.

## LEVEL 2 - RUN-ONS AND COMMA SPLICES

Directions: Each sentence has three underlined/bolded portions. One of those is a comma splice or a run on. Circle the error, categorize as CS or RO, and change to make complete/correct.

1. If Chris hopes to survive in his 8 a.m. English class, he needs to discover caffeine even when he has a test, his head hits the desk by 8:05, and snores soon escape his mouth. RO
2. Although you might not believe it, Antonio actually benefits from his chicken scratch handwriting because no one can read it, Antonio doesn't have to worry about using the right word or the correct spelling. CS
3. If you offer Valerie a piece of watermelon, she will refuse it, the slices look like the wicked smile of a circus clown who once scared her as a child during a trip to the big top. CS
4. During the summer when a variety of fruit is in season, Melville always avoids the fresh peaches, the fuzzy skin brushing against his lips makes Melville think that he's eating a small rodent. CS
5. Jean always nibbles around the pit of a cherry, just as if she were eating a peach, because she is vain about her smile, she doesn't want to chip a tooth on the hard center. CS
6. Because Simon thinks that he has big, ugly toes, he insists on wearing socks everywhere that he goes at the beach, in the shower, or around the house, you will find Simon with socks on his feet. double dady RO
7. Sick with the flu, Howard craved a big hot bowl of his grandmother's chicken soup, but in the refrigerator, Howard had only a jar of olives and a carton of milk, cream of olive soup, Howard decided, would only worsen how he felt. CS

### LEVEL 3 - RUN-ONS AND COMMA SPLICES

Directions: You're the teacher. Create a paragraph that you will use to teach students to identify and fix run-ons. You will receive 5 points of extra credit if you create at least 8-10 sentences below, exchange papers with a friend in one of my classes, and have them identify/fix all errors. In order to get your points, you will need to show this page to Ms. Wilkie before the quiz.

Answers  
may vary  
must be turned  
in by Monday  
for E.C.

## LEVEL 4 - RUN-ONS AND COMMA SPLICES

Directions: You are the teacher. A student in your class has submitted an assignment where the goal was to have 2 paragraphs with all complete sentences and thoughts. First, label each sentences as complete (C), fragment (F), run on (RO) or (CS). Then, make corrections to the text so that it reflects the assignment requirements of all complete thoughts.

Text:

Although penguins look clumsy on land, They are graceful in the water. Their bodies are perfectly suited for swimming and diving they are a streamlined torpedo shape. Their wings are shaped like flippers penguins use them to propel themselves through the water at speeds up to 30 miles per hour. They use their webbed feet to steer they help them. Most penguins can even swim like porpoises.

Leaping out of the water to breathe and then diving back in with one graceful motion, Penguins frequently need to dive deep to catch prey, Sometimes descending to depths of over a thousand feet. The water pressure can be great enough to collapse lungs penguins have special air chambers in their bodies. When a penguin dives, the chambers squeeze, air is forced into the lungs. The extra air keeps the lungs from collapsing. The chilly waters that penguins prefer would be too cold for most birds, penguins are insulated by waterproof feathers and a thick layer of fat. Penguins more than make up for being awkward on land, By being perfectly suited for the water.