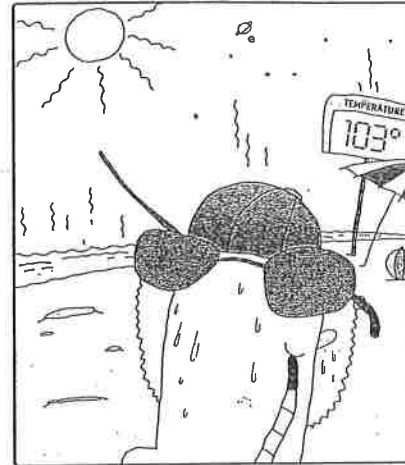


Comma Splices and Run-Ons

A comma splice is an error made when a writer connects two simple sentences with only a comma. A run-on sentence occurs when two simple sentences run together without any punctuation marks and/or connecting words. (Turn to pages 86-87 in *Write Source 2000* for more information and examples.)



EXAMPLES

Comma Splice:

The day is going to be very hot, I like hot weather.

(Two complete thoughts are "spliced" together with only a comma.)

Corrected Sentence:

The day is going to be very hot, but I like hot weather.

(Adding the coordinate conjunction *but* after the comma turns this into a compound sentence.)

Run-On Sentence:

The day was to be the hottest of the summer we decided to get up early.

(Two complete thoughts are incorrectly run together.)

Corrected Sentence:

The day was to be the hottest of the summer; we decided to get up early.

(Adding a semicolon corrects the run-on error.)

Directions

Place a *CS* in front of each comma splice, an *RO* in front of each run-on sentence, and a *C* in front of each correct sentence. Then correct each faulty sentence.

- _____ 1. The forecast sounded a warning of very high temperatures.
- _____ 2. Still, it looked like a great day for swimming, we headed for the beach.
- _____ 3. By noon the heat was intense we needed to come in out of the sun.
- _____ 4. It was the perfect time to go for a ride in our air-conditioned car, we decided to look for an ice-cream stand.