

Name _____

Date _____

Avoiding Run-On Sentences

Run-on sentences occur when two or more independent clauses are not joined together properly. These mistakes often happen when:

- The new thought begins with a pronoun.
- The new thought begins with a transitional expression or conjunctive adverb.
- The new thought begins with a directional word such as then.

There are four ways of correcting run-on sentences:

- Separate the two sentences using a period.
(Ex: The reading test was very long. It had 100 questions.)
- Make a compound sentence.
(Ex: Suzy likes tennis, but Ally likes to play basketball.)
- Connect the two ideas with a semi-colon.
(Ex: The reading test was very long; it had 100 questions.)
- Create a complex sentence.
(Ex: I like to play tennis; however, Ally likes to play basketball.)
(Ex: Although I like to play tennis, Ally likes to play basketball.)

Direction: Correctly punctuate the run-on sentences. If it is correct, write C beside it.

1. I enjoy going to visit my grandparents however I don't enjoy the three hour ride.
2. I spoke with my aunt on the phone we talked for two hours.
3. Yesterday, I jogged three miles it was the farthest I've ever jogged.
4. Suzy took painting lessons then she decided she doesn't like to paint.
5. Many of my friends enjoy pizza but I prefer Chinese food.
6. I have no idea how to play this game it didn't come with directions.
7. Carrie has decided to not use her credit cards therefore she will not be buying much.
8. The error I made was small nevertheless it made me fail the test.
9. Billy and Jim rode motorcycles to Nevada and they enjoyed every minute of the ride.
10. Everyone wanted to go on the field trip so we all participated in the fund raiser.
11. The storm blew over our satellite dish it also blew over a tree.
12. The crowd would not fit in the auditorium therefore some missed seeing the show.
13. My dog chased the neighbor's cat it climbed a tree to get away.
14. We had no electricity therefore we had to eat by candlelight.