

Proofreading for Run-ons and Comma Splices

Goal: This Directed Learning Activity is intended to introduce you to proofreading for run-ons and comma splices, and will help you become familiar with terms, definitions and applications of the concepts surrounding the topic.

Activities: This portion of the Directed Learning Activity is meant to be done independently. This portion will include activities such as exercises, games, Power Point presentations, and/or other lessons that show applications of the topic. You should print all materials used and take notes on anything you learn in this Directed Learning Activity.

1. Cut and paste the following URL and read the proofreading techniques offered by Shoreline Community College. In the document, you will examine different techniques for proofreading, including techniques for proofreading run-ons and comma splices.
<http://owl.waol.org/handouts/proofread.pdf>
2. For your next activity, you will need to choose a short story or news paper article. You will need to choose five places where the article correctly joins two sentences and turn them into run-ons, and choose five more places where the article correctly joins two sentences and turn them into comma splice errors. Keep in mind that for this exercise, you're **creating errors** that you normally wouldn't want to make in writing, but creating the error will help you understand how comma splices and run-ons are constructed so that you will be able to spot them in your own writing more easily. Bring in the original article when you meet with a tutor, but below, just write the comma splices or run-ons that you've created.

Run-ons:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Comma Splices:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Review: With a tutor at the Writing Center, discuss specific terms, their definitions and all of the examples you have written. Make sure to be clear about your understanding of the definitions, and the examples you have given. Clarity will be gauged by your use of specific terms you learned during the Activities portion of this Directed Learning Activity. **In order to pass this Directed Learning Activity, you will need to present the examples you wrote in the previous exercise, and explain what changes were made to the original sentences, as well as the techniques you learned.**