

Editing Practice: Run-on Sentences

A run-on sentence is two or more complete sentences that are punctuated as one long sentence. Run on sentences are a typical problem in first drafts, but can be corrected during the editing process. There are three ways to correct a run-on sentence:

- Use a comma and a conjunction
- Use a period to create two separate sentences
- Use a semi-colon
- NOTE: sometimes it is also be necessary to eliminate redundancy.



RUN-ON SENTENCE: Even though she had just gotten a scooter for Christmas Jill asked for a bicycle and her brother Peter couldn't believe it when their parents actually got Jill the bicycle so soon after she got the scooter.

CORRECTED SENTENCE: Even though she had just gotten a scooter for Christmas, Jill asked for a bicycle. Her brother Peter couldn't believe it when their parents actually got her one.

Correct each run-on sentence below.

1. Though she had been running around like crazy for three days Wanda hadn't slept much at night without even trying she stayed up until midnight again the fourth night she really regretted it the next day when she was too tired to get out of bed.

2. Because it takes so long to cut the whole yard Rachel cuts only as much grass as she can every day she feels like as soon as she gets done cutting it it's time to start cutting it again it is because in the summer cutting grass is a non-stop job.

3. When Tim first began playing the piano he used to bang on the keys and hit all the wrong notes recently he has really shown improvement and everyone in his family has commented that Tim is actually beginning to show some promise on the piano.
