

Instructions for doing this worksheet: The answers are given at the bottom. So try to answer the questions on your own and once you think you have all the answers, scroll down to answers and explanations.

Comma splice (important to avoid)

Exercise 1:

After the word “good” - should a comma or a semicolon be used?

This report is not good this report has errors.

Two independent clauses connected by a conjunctive adverb or a transitional phrase

Exercise 2: Punctuate and explain why you placed the appropriate punctuation where you did.

My job is great however I still want a promotion.

ANSWERS:

Exercise 1 correct answer:

Answer: Semicolon

Why: The two sentences are too close in meaning. It should either be broken up into two sentences or be separated with a semicolon. It can also be "This report is not good because the report has errors."

But it doesn't make sense with a comma.

Exercise 2 correct answers:

Answer: My job is great; however, I still want a promotion.

Why: There are two independent clauses connected by a conjunctive adverb. And a comma goes after the conjunctive adverb.