

Errors With Sentences

Independent and Dependent Clause

Zaryab is a two-year-old, so he cannot form full sentences yet.

IC

DC

Two main types of errors with sentences:

1. Fragments
2. Run-on

Fragments

Going to get work done

No independent clause. Dependent clause treated as if it is a complete sentence.

Mistakes that can make a Sentence Fragmented

1. Sentence lacks a verb.

He dinner.

Ask what the subject is doing, then add a verb

He is having dinner/ He wants dinner etc

2. Sentence lacks a subject

parked a car

Ask who. Then add a subject. He/She etc

3. Sentence has an –ing verb but no helping verb

The man driving through the countryside

I. Add either is/was (form of be)

The man is/was driving through the countryside.

II. Change the verb to another form

The man drove through the countryside.

4. Sentence begins with a subordinating conjunction such as after, although, since, because etc

Because he was running late...

- I. Remove the subordinating conjunction

He was running late.

- II. Connect sentence to an independent clause

Because he was running late, he skipped his breakfast.

Run-on Sentences

Two types of run-on errors:

1. Run-together or Fused Sentences

When sentences are piled upon one another without any punctuation. Correct by adding full stop or conjunctions.

She is going to the market she wants ice cream.

She is going to the market because she wants ice cream.

2. Comma Splice

When two independent or dependent clauses are separated by a comma instead of a full stop or a semi colon.

Ali and Omer had always enjoyed eating traditional food, they began to prefer pizza after moving to Italy.

~~IC IC~~
~~DC DC~~
IC, DC
DC, IC

How to Fix Comma Splice

Ali and Omer had always enjoyed eating traditional food, they began to prefer pizza after moving to Italy.

1. **Create two separate sentences- add a full stop.**

Ali and Omer had always enjoyed eating traditional food. They began to prefer pizza after moving to Italy.

2. **Use a semicolon.**

Ali and Omer had always enjoyed eating traditional food; they began to prefer pizza after moving to Italy.

3. Convert one part of the sentence into a dependent clause.

I. Use a comma and one of the FANBOYS conjunctions.

Ali and Omer had always enjoyed eating traditional food ,
but they began to prefer pizza after moving to Italy.

Note: Comma is always used!

If the relationship between the clauses is not contrasting/if the IC have the same subject, for example:

The film 'Baby's Day Out' is very funny, it is perfect for little kids.

Remove comma and pronoun and add a conjunction.

The film 'Baby's Day Out' is very funny, and is perfect for little kids.

II. By adding subordinating conjunctions

Although, though, In spite of, Despite, Because, Since etc

Although Ali and Omer had always enjoyed eating traditional food, they began to prefer pizza after moving to Italy.

III. Add a semicolon and a conjunctive adverb

i. However and Nevertheless ----- contrast

ii. Therefore and Consequently----- cause and effect relationship

iii. Moreover and Furthermore ----- expand on information

Ali and Omer had always enjoyed eating traditional food ;however ,they began to prefer pizza after moving to Italy.

Note: Always add a semicolon before a conjunctive adverb and a comma after it.

Conjunctions	Meanings	Examples
For	Because	He needs to start studying, for his exams are starting soon.
And	In addition to	He managed to prepare dinner and set the table before the guests arrived.
Nor	Additional negative idea/ And not	He doesn't attend classes, nor does he study at home.
But	Contrast/ However	He hates playing football, but he doesn't mind watching it on the television.
Or	Option, Choice/ Either	You can watch a movie, or you can just go to sleep.
Yet	Contrast/ But	He hasn't studied at all, yet he expects to clear the exam.
So	Consequence/ Therefore	She is going out with her friends, so she will be home late.