

Identifying and Correcting Run-Ons and General Comma Mistakes

Annotate the following paragraphs to correct any run-ons; employ any strategy that creates a complete sentence, either a comma with a coordinating conjunction, a simple splitting of the run-on with an appropriate end-mark, or the correct use of a semi-colon or semi-colon with a transition.

1) To see if the glue on his false sideburns was waterproof a teenager jumped into the swirling black waters of Cobb Creek. 2) The youth's two friends who accompanied him tried to talk him out of the experiment. 3) They tried to talk him into jumping in a shallower end of the creek but they failed at that too. 4) The boy jumped off a concrete wall but the teen immediately began to struggle in 16 feet of rapid water. 5) The friends tried to rescue him yet they failed. 6) The police recovered the boy's drowned body a half an hour later the left sideburn was missing.

2) A saloon owner's dog had a drinking problem so a New York pet psychologist was called in to help. 2) If the Chihuahua wanted booze it would bark incessantly. 3) By feeding the doggie vomiting pills the psychologist cured the animal. 4) The pills reacted with the booze this made the dog vomit. 5) It only took a few miserable experiences and the dog swore off the stuff. 6) For the time and services he invested in this pooch the doctor received \$45 and hour.

3) Catfish have been known to grow up to a hundred pounds but killer catfish were unknown until last year in Eufaula, Oklahoma. 2) Although we have all heard the fish stories about "the one that got away" this 11 year old Oklahoma boy got away from his fish. 3) Because the boy screamed for his father both parents jumped in the lake. 4) They grabbed for their son he was pulled under twice. 5) After the parents struggled for several seconds the boy was eventually released. 6) Their son was alive however he had mouth prints and teeth marks from this knee to his ankle.

Run-on Practice #3

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