The Learning Centre

Grammar Rules
Run-On Sentences

A **run-on sentence** is a grammatical error that occurs when two independent clauses/sentences are not separated by any form of punctuation or conjunction. This is what a run-on sentence looks like:

I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday it's my favourite kind so far. ✕

In this example, "I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday" is an independent sentence and "It's my favourite kind so far" is an independent sentence. These independent sentences are not separated with punctuation or a conjunction, so the sentence as a whole is grammatically incorrect.

How to Fix Run-On Sentences

If you've identified a run-on sentence in your writing, you can fix the error in a number of ways:

- **Make two sentences using a period**

Example

Comma splice:
I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday it's my favourite kind so far. ✕

Correction:
I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday. It's my favourite kind so far. √

- **Join the two sentences with punctuation**

Example

Comma splice:
I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday it's my favourite kind so far. ✕

Correction:
> I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday; it's my favourite kind so far. √

- **Join the two sentences with a conjunction**

<u>Example</u>

Comma splice:
I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday it's my favourite kind so far. ✕

Correction:
> I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday and it's my favourite kind so far. √

- **Join the two sentences with punctuation and a conjunction**

<u>Example</u>

Comma splice:
I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday it's my favourite kind so far. ✕

Correction:
> I tried Chocolate Peanut Butter ice cream at Moo-Lix on Saturday; as a result, it's my favourite kind so far.√