



Run-ons

What is a run-on? Run-ons are sentences with two complete thoughts joined together without the proper punctuation.

There are a couple of ways to make a run-on:

1. **The “fused sentence, combines 2 independent clauses without any punctuation, like this:**
Amy is not a nurse she is a doctor.
2. **The “lonely conjunction,” combines 2 independent clauses with only a coordinating conjunction (one of the FANBOYS), like this:**
Amy is not a nurse but she is a doctor.

There are 3 quick ways to fix and run-on:

1. **Use a period to make two sentences, like this:**
Amy is not a nurse. She is a doctor.
2. **Use a semicolon to join the sentences, like this:**
Amy is not a nurse; she is a doctor.

Semicolons work like periods and can be used as long as the sentences are talking about the same topic.

3. **Add a comma before the coordination conjunction(FANBOYS), like this:**
Amy is not a nurse, but she is a doctor.

Remember **FANBOYS** stands for: **F**or, **A**nd, **N**or, **B**ut, **O**r, **Y**et, **S**o.

Joining two complete thoughts without proper punctuation creates a run-on sentence. You can fix an error like this by using a period or semicolon between the two complete thoughts. You can also add a comma and a coordinating conjunction. The choice is yours!