



Writing Centre

Run-on Sentences

A **run-on sentence** error occurs when two complete sentences (ideas) are combined together incorrectly.

For example: *Ann loved travelling in France she felt Paris was too cold.*

This sentence has two independent clauses that are not correctly connected, so the sentence is a run-on.

There are **four ways** to correct run-on sentences:

1. Check for two independent clauses and write them as two independent sentences.

Ann loved travelling in France. She felt Paris was too cold.

2. Use a semicolon to separate two independent clauses.

Ann loved travelling in France; she felt Paris was too cold.

3. Use a comma before any of the following coordinating conjunctions.

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

Ann loved travelling in France, but she felt Paris was too cold.

4. Use a semicolon followed by one of the following words subordinating conjunctions.

therefore, however, also, nevertheless, thus, furthermore, consequently

Ann loved travelling in France; however, she felt Paris was too cold.