

Chapter 10: Run-Ons and Comma Splices

Chapter Review Test 1

In the space to the left of each item, write **RO** for a run-on, **CS** for a comma splice, or **C** for correct. Then edit each sentence by adding words and/or punctuation. Do not use the same method of correction in every sentence.

- _____ 1. Gasoline prices skyrocketed many drivers became more concerned about the fuel economy of their vehicles.
- _____ 2. Many factors affect fuel economy these include both the vehicle itself and the behavior of the driver.
- _____ 3. Cars with automatic transmissions might be easier to drive, cars with manual transmissions generally use less gas.
- _____ 4. Tires should be inflated according to the manufacturer's guidelines, these guidelines are usually printed on the inside of the driver-side door.
- _____ 5. When a car's tires are properly inflated, gas mileage can improve by about 3.3 percent.
- _____ 6. Drivers should remove unnecessary items from the trunk, extra weight causes a vehicle to use more gas.
- _____ 7. All of these measures will help save gas, a driver's behavior is just as important.
- _____ 8. Drivers waste gas by braking and accelerating aggressively a more gentle driving style could increase their gas mileage by about 33 percent.
- _____ 9. Gas mileage decreases rapidly at speeds above 60 miles per hour.
- _____ 10. Slower drivers save on gas money they spend less on speeding tickets, too!

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Chapter Review Test 2

Edit the following paragraph to correct any run-ons or comma splices.

The human eye is one of the most complex organs in the body for many people its most interesting feature is simply its color. Most people have the same eye color throughout their lives, a small percentage of adults have eyes that change color. Eye color is determined by a substance called melanin people have varying amounts of melanin. Eyes with a large amount of melanin are darker, eyes with less melanin tend to be lighter. Usually, a person's melanin level remains constant throughout his or her life. Certain diseases, however, can change the level of melanin one of these diseases is pigmentary glaucoma. Other people have a condition commonly referred to as multicolored eyes. This condition affects about 1 percent of the population, it is usually the result of a serious injury. The rock star David Bowie received a blow to the face as a child, one of his eyes became darker. Finally, some people's eyes simply change color for no apparent reason. According to one study, these changes in eye color occur at nearly identical rates in identical twins this type of change is probably genetic.

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10-1: Correcting Run-Ons and Comma Splices

In the following items, correct the run-ons or comma splices by adding a period, a semicolon, a coordinating conjunction, or a dependent word. Add a comma if necessary. If the original sentence is correct, write **C** next to it.

EXAMPLE

Soap operas are highly addictive ; they seem to attract more loyal fans than any other type of television program.

1. Soap operas generally feature numerous ongoing storylines, the suspenseful plots keep viewers watching episode after episode.
2. Secret romances, evil twins, and dramatic coincidences are staples of soap opera plots some characters even come back to life after being thought dead.
3. Soap operas first appeared on daytime television in the 1950s they are still enjoyed by millions of viewers today.
4. The programs were called soap operas they featured soap and laundry detergent advertisements aimed at the mostly female audience.
5. Some soap operas have been around for over forty years many viewers consider themselves lifelong fans of a particular show.
6. Today, a different type of soap opera has appeared, these shows air at night.
7. A primetime soap opera called *Peyton Place* became popular in the 1960s, many other programs followed its lead.
8. *Dynasty*, *Dallas*, *Beverly Hills 90210*, and *Melrose Place* were popular primetime soaps of the 1980s and 1990s; today's primetime soap operas include *Desperate Housewives* and *Grey's Anatomy*.
9. Females still make up the majority of daytime soap viewers, primetime soaps such as *Glee* have attracted a huge following of both male and female teenagers.
10. They air at night or during the day soap operas continue to hook viewers with their addictive storylines.

10-2: Correcting Run-Ons and Comma Splices

In the following items, correct the run-ons or comma splices by adding a period, a semicolon, a coordinating conjunction, or a dependent word. Add or delete commas if necessary. If the original sentence is correct, write a **C** next to it.

EXAMPLE

Personality tests are very popular ~~you~~ ^{You} can even find self-tests online.

1. Personality tests are everywhere, they are common in magazines like *Cosmopolitan*, *Glamour*, *GQ*, and *Esquire*.
2. It's fun to take these tests can we really trust the results?
3. You have ever taken one of these tests you probably know that they can be unreliable.
4. You answer a series of questions, you find out what category you fit into.
5. Some test takers may agree with their results, others simply shake their heads in disbelief.
6. Magazine surveys are very tempting even when we have better things to do, we tend to take these tests to see who we are.
7. It can be fun to read the results we shouldn't take them too seriously.
8. What you and the people close to you think about your character is the best measure of personality that's much more important than what a magazine says.
9. The tests in popular magazines are entertaining, other personality tests are used for more serious purposes.
10. A company wants to hire someone with a certain personality, the employer might require an applicant to take a personality test.