



DIRECTED LEARNING ACTIVITY

Run-on Sentences

OBJECTIVE: College level writing deals with complex issues and theories. Writing about these complex issues and theories often requires sophisticated sentence structures. When student writers begin to try to put these complex thoughts into writing, run-on sentences often occur. This Directed Learning Activity is intended to help you better understand this problem and better prepare you to satisfy the stylistic expectations of college level writing.

ACTIVITY: The following steps constitute the independent portion of this Directed Learning Activity. Once you have completed this portion, you must meet with a tutor to review the activity.

- 1) Before beginning this Directed Learning Activity, collect some of your graded work that indicates run-on sentences as a weakness and bring that work with you to the Writing Center.
- 2) Check out a Writing Center computer and go to the following web site:

<http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/runons.htm>
- 3) Review the PowerPoint presentation, and then try some of the review exercises.
- 4) When you feel more knowledgeable about run-on sentences, review your graded work and attempt to identify and fix any run-on sentences, applying the skills and strategies learned through the online resources.

REVIEW: During your appointment with a tutor, demonstrate your greater understanding of run-on sentences by explaining your revisions. Utilize the specific terminology (independent clause, comma splice, coordinating conjunction, conjunctive adverb) encountered during the independent portion of the activity. Explain strategies that you used to identify and correct run-on sentences. Be prepared to utilize this experience in class discussion and future peer editing activities.

TUTOR KEY:

1) Explain specific terminology that was used during your activity review?

Independent clause

Fused sentence

Coordinating conjunctions

FANBOYS

Comma Splice

2) What strategies can be used to identify and correct run-on sentences?

Task oriented proofreading

Cover-up Method

Circle Subject, Underline Verb and Read aloud to see if complete thought

Select coordinating conjunction based on relationship

3) How will you incorporate the lessons gained from this activity into your writing process?