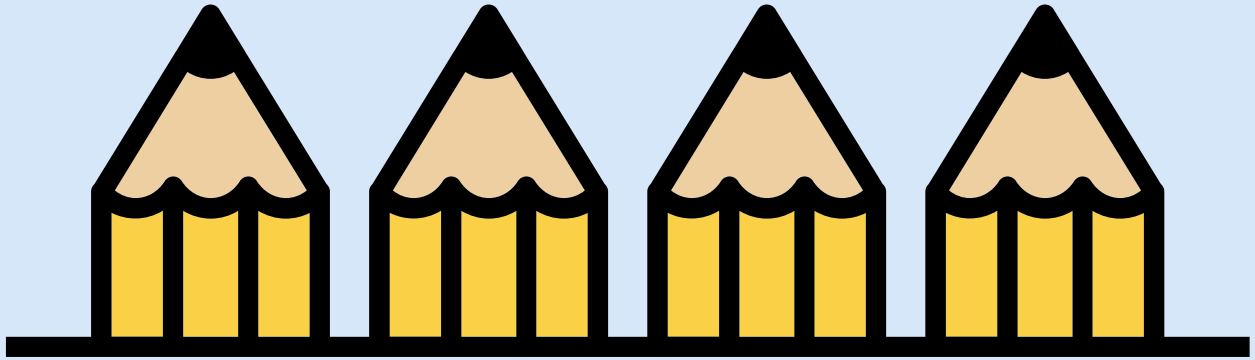
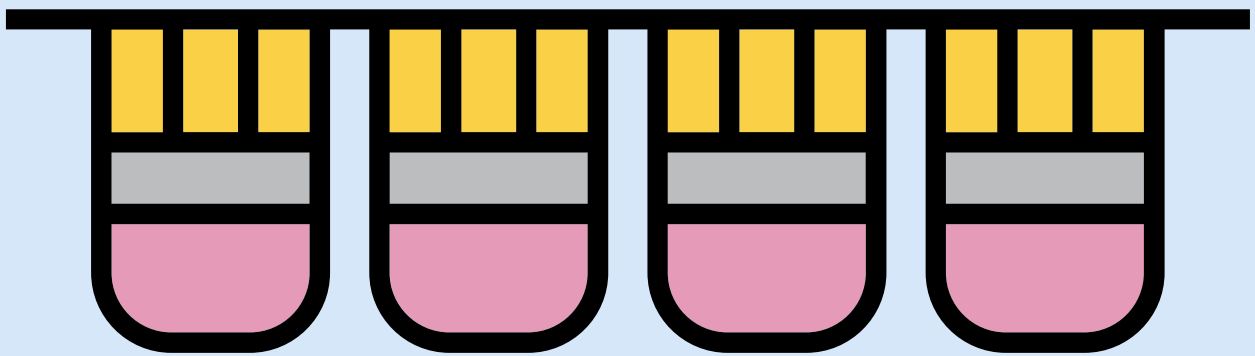




Grade 8 Grammar Sample



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Run-on Sentences Review

Run-on sentences are missing correct punctuation:
a period between two **independent clauses**,
a **comma** and a **conjunction**, or
a **colon** if the clauses are related.

Common mistakes in run-on sentences:

- Forgetting to add a period at the end of each **independent clause**
- Adding a **conjunction** without a **comma**
- Using a **comma** in place of a period or without a **conjunction**
- Including multiple **conjunctions**





I can correctly write complete sentences.

Run-on sentences are made up of two or more **independent clauses** that don't have correct conjunctions or punctuation between them. One way to correct **run-on sentences** is to split the sentences into two **independent clauses**.

✗ The giraffe is the tallest living terrestrial animal they are known for their long necks and long legs.

✓ The giraffe is the tallest living terrestrial animal. They are known for their long necks and long legs.



Daily Practice



Correct each run-on sentence below by separating it into two separate independent clauses.

- A group of researchers buried a log underground to try and preserve it they were successful in their hypothesis.

- Artificial food dyes are added to many sugary concoctions they might be responsible for hyperactivity in some people.

- The museum held a photography contest they had separate categories for age groups.



I can correctly write complete sentences.

Run-on sentences can be formed by using too many conjunctions without proper punctuation. Another way to correct **run-on sentences** is to use a **comma** and a **conjunction** to form a compound sentence.

✗ **Hamilton is a biographical musical and it has catchy songs and it covers the American Revolution.**

✓ **Hamilton is a biographical musical, and it has catchy songs.** It covers the American Revolution.



Daily Practice



Correct each run-on sentence below by adding a comma and a conjunction to form a compound sentence.

- The siren scared the dog and the dog hid under my bed and then it howled to match the sound of the siren.

- A saxophone is a reed instrument and it is in the woodwind family and it is made of brass.

- My family went on a Carnival cruise but the weather wasn't very good so we spent most of the time inside.



I can correctly write complete sentences.

Run-on sentences are made up of two or more **independent clauses** that don't have correct conjunctions or punctuation between them.

Run-on sentences can be corrected by adding a **colon** if the second clause is an example or explanation.

✗ My physician recommended I sleep for at least eight hours the sleep would improve my overall health.

✓ My physician recommended I sleep for at least eight hours: Sleep will improve my overall health.



Daily Practice



Correct each run-on sentence below by adding a colon between the two independent and related clauses.

- The entrepreneur learned an invaluable lesson after years of struggling if you work hard now, you can play hard later.

- Educators in secondary school know that there is a sole principle that determines success prior knowledge is the foundation of everything.

- The fitness coach wasn't taking new clients her current calendar was full.



I can correctly write complete sentences.

Run-on sentences are made up of two or more **independent clauses** that don't have correct conjunctions or punctuation between them.

Run-on sentences can be corrected by adding a **semicolon** with a **conjunctive adverb**.

✗ The cloudy weather scared many people away from the beach we were able to get a spot close to the water.

✓ The cloudy weather scared many people away from the beach; therefore, we were able to get a spot close to the water.



Daily Practice



Correct each run-on sentence below by adding a semicolon and a conjunctive adverb.

- The nurses were given new stethoscopes they had to purchase their own scrubs.

- The concert will end after midnight we'll leave early to avoid traffic.

- The contractor laid the new tile this afternoon he was able to hang the new chandelier.



I can correctly write complete sentences.

Run-on sentences are made up of two or more **independent clauses** that don't have correct conjunctions or punctuation between them.

Run-on sentences can be corrected by adding a **semicolon** if the clauses are directly related.

✗ **Charlie fell off his bike he didn't get hurt at all.**

✓ **Charlie fell off his bike; he didn't get hurt at all.**



Daily Practice



Rewrite each run-on sentence below by adding a semicolon between the two independent clauses.

- Ahmed asked for a cheeseburger Beverly requested pizza.

- I dropped my new phone this morning the power button won't work.

- Emery chose to re-create a scene from the novel her partner argued against doing that.



Run-on Sentences Assessment



Write "R" beside the run-on sentences below. Add the proper punctuation to those sentences.

- This year's fruit crop is impressive we have more oranges than ever! ☐
- The house will not be built in time: the plumber has been too sick to work. ☐
- England is considered the birthplace of coal also, they closed their last coal plant this year. ☐
- Climate change and global warming have different meanings, but they are closely related. ☐
- There's a growing movement for healthier lunches in schools some students even grow their own vegetables. ☐



Dangling Modifiers

Dangling modifiers and **misplaced modifiers** are common mistakes in sentence, paragraph, and essay writing.

Dangling modifiers don't have a clear subject or noun to modify.

Misplaced modifiers are placed in a sentence incorrectly and appear to modify the wrong thing.





I can use clarity when writing.

A **dangling modifier** is a word or phrase that fails to identify the subject of what is being modified.

These words or phrases are intended to describe another part of a sentence but make the sentence *confusing*.

✗ **After the chapter was finished,** the dogs finally had dinner.
The dogs didn't read a chapter and then feed themselves, but there isn't another subject here.

✓ I fed the dogs dinner after I finished reading the chapter.



Daily Practice



Circle the dangling modifier and correctly rewrite the sentence.

- Failing to get a good night's sleep, my exam results weren't very good.

- Driving through the mountains, the fall leaves were magnificent.

- Having left the wet towel crumpled on the floor, the room smelled like mold.



I can use clarity when writing.

A **misplaced modifier**

is a word or phrase that is improperly separated from the word it modifies.

The placement of these modifiers makes sentences *confusing* and *illogical*.

✗ Nairobi found a silver woman's bracelet.
(*The bracelet didn't belong to a "silver woman."*)

✓ Nairobi found a woman's silver bracelet.



Daily Practice



Circle the misplaced modifier and rewrite the sentence correctly.

- The pizza was served to the guests from the cardboard box.

- The puppy chased the ball running down the street.

- I answered the door for the delivery driver wearing my robe.



I can use clarity when writing.

A **dangling modifier** is a word or phrase that fails to identify the subject of what is being modified.

A **misplaced modifier** is a word or phrase that is improperly separated from the word it modifies.

✗ **Puying my cousin a gift**, the store's alarm started ringing.
(Dangling modifier)

✗ A new doctor used a broken stethoscope **whose name was Miquel**. (Misplaced modifier)



Daily Practice



Circle the dangling or misplaced modifier.

- The research paper needed to be submitted on the computer with a variety of sources.
- Our coach promised us after the game we'd get ice cream.
- Having left the movie for more popcorn, the best action scene was missed.
- Violet told me on Wednesday that she would call.
- Assisting the woman with her wheelchair, the bus pulled away.



Dangling and Misplaced Modifiers Assessment



Circle the dangling or misplaced modifier. Correct the sentence.

- The traffic jam, while driving to work, was infuriating.

- Chase left his phone at the park with the number on it.

- After lighting a candle, the house smelled delightful.

- The visitors saw the tiger cub with binoculars.



8th Grade



Name: _____ Date: _____

(1) Engaged in a video game, the smoke began to billow up the stairwell. (2) As soon as my nose caught a whiff of the smoke, I jumped up and raced toward the kitchen. (3) I forgot to set the oven timer the pizza was clearly burning.

(4) I had already thrown the box in the garbage with the directions on it.

(5) Because of that, I didn't know if there was a way to salvage the mess I was out of luck. (6) Instead, I made the decision to toss the burnt pizza and order one from Pizza Hut.

(7) "Burn your pizza again?" the person asked on the other end of the phone.

(8) "Yep! That's the third time this month! Can you send me the usual?" I replied. (9) Then I ran upstairs to change, so I didn't answer the door for the delivery driver in my pajamas.

1. Correct sentence #1.

- a. The smoke began to billow up the stairwell because I was engaged in a video game.
- b. Since I was engaged in a video game, I didn't notice the smoke billowing up the stairwell.
- c. Correct as is

2. Correct sentence #3.

- a. I forgot to set the oven timer, and the pizza was clearly burning.
- b. I forgot to set the oven timer and the pizza was clearly burning.
- c. Correct as is

3. Correct sentence #4.

- a. I had already thrown away the box with the directions on it.
- b. I had already thrown in the garbage that had the directions on it.
- c. Correct as is

4. Correct sentence #5.

- a. Because of that, I didn't know if there was a way to salvage the mess, I was out of luck.
- b. Because of that, I didn't know if there was a way to salvage the mess; I was out of luck.
- c. Correct as is

5. Correct sentence #9.

- a. Then I ran upstairs to change, so I didn't answer the door for the delivery driver who was wearing pajamas.
- b. Then I ran upstairs to change, so I didn't have on my pajamas to answer the door when the delivery driver arrived.
- c. Correct as is



Lisa Collum is a CEO, author, educator, and mother of four with more than 20 years of experience in education. She is the founder of Top Score Writing and Coastal Middle & High School. After seeing students struggle with writing, Lisa developed a simple, structured approach that helped her students achieve a 100% pass rate on the state writing assessment two years in a row.

Today, Top Score Writing is used by schools nationwide to help teachers simplify writing instruction and build confident, successful writers. Lisa also travels across the country providing professional development and sharing practical strategies with teachers, administrators, and district leaders.