

# Editing Exercises on Sentence Fragments and Run-Ons

## Fixing Sentence Fragments

1. Being the first person in his family ever to attend college. Alex is determined to succeed.

Being the first person in his family ever to attend college, Alex is determined to succeed.

2. Does our society rob children of their childhood? By making them aware too soon of adult ills?

Does our society rob children of their childhood by making them aware too soon of adult ills?

3. Richard III supposedly had the young princes murdered. No one has ever found out what really happened to them.  
correct!

4. For democracy to function, two elements are crucial. An educated populace and a collective belief in people's ability to chart their own course.

For democracy to function, two elements are crucial: an educated populace and a collective belief in people's ability to chart their own course.

5. You must take his stories as others do. With a grain of salt.

You must take his stories as others do--with a grain of salt.

## Paragraph with Sentence Fragments

Version with errors	Corrected Version
<p>Some people assume that only women are overly concerned with body image. However, men often share this concern. While women tend to exercise vigorously to stay slender, men usually lift weights to “bulk up.” <b>Because of their desire to look masculine.</b> Both are trying to achieve the “ideal” body form. <b>The muscular male and the slim female.</b> Sometimes working out begins to interfere with other aspects of life. <b>Such as sleeping, eating regularly, or going to school or work.</b> These are warning signs. <b>Of too much emphasis on physical appearance.</b> Preoccupation with body image may turn a healthy lifestyle into an unhealthy obsession. Many people believe that looking attractive will bring them happiness. <b>Unfortunately, when they become compulsive.</b> Beautiful people are not always happy.</p>	<p>Some people assume that only women are overly concerned with body image. However, men often share this concern. While women tend to exercise vigorously to stay slender, men usually lift weights to “bulk up” because of their desire to look masculine. Both the muscular male and the slim female are trying to achieve the “ideal” body form. Sometimes working out begins to interfere with other aspects of life such as sleeping, eating regularly, or going to school or work. These are warning signs of too much emphasis on physical appearance. Preoccupation with body image may turn a healthy lifestyle into an unhealthy obsession. Many people believe that looking attractive will bring them happiness. Unfortunately, when they become compulsive, beautiful people are not always happy.</p>

## Revising Comma Splices and Fused Sentences Exercise 2-1

1. Dr. Frankenstein flung a switch, blue streamers of static electricity crackled about the table, the creature gave a grunt and opened smoldering eyes.

Dr. Frankenstein flung a switch, and blue streamers of static electricity crackled about the table as the creature gave a grunt and opened smoldering eyes.

2. "I've won! exclaimed the scientist in triumph he circled the room doing a demented Irish reel.

"I've won! exclaimed the scientist in triumph, and he circled the room doing a demented Irish reel.

3. The creature's right hand strained, the heavy steel manacle imprisoning his wrist began to creak.

The creature's right hand strained, and the heavy steel manacle imprisoning his wrist began to creak.

4. Like a staple wrenched from a document, the manacle yielded.  
correct!

5. The creature sat upright and tugged at the shackles binding his ankles, Frankenstein uttered a piercing scream.

The creature sat upright and tugged at the shackles binding his ankles. Frankenstein uttered a piercing scream.

## Revising Run-ons in a Paragraph

Incorrect Version	Corrected Version
<p>Have you ever wondered why you drive on parkways and park on <u>driveways, that's</u> about as logical as your nose running while your feet smell! When you think about it, these phrases don't make <u>sense yet we</u> tend to accept them without thinking about what they literally <u>mean we</u> simply take their intended meaning for granted. Think, however, how confusing they are for a person who is just learning the language. If, for example, you have just learned the verb park, you would logically assume that a parkway is where you should park your <u>car, of course</u>, when most people see a parkway or a driveway, they realize that braking on a parkway would be hazardous, while speeding through a driveway will not take them very far. However, our language is full of idiomatic expressions that may be difficult for a person from another language background to understand. Fortunately, there are plenty of questions to keep us all confused, such as why Americans commonly refer to going to work as "punching the clock."</p>	<p>Have you ever wondered why you drive on parkways and park on <u>driveways—that's</u> about as logical as your nose running while your feet smell! When you think about it, these phrases don't make <u>sense, yet we</u> tend to accept them without thinking about what they literally <u>mean. We</u> simply take their intended meaning for granted. Think, however, how confusing they are for a person who is just learning the language. If, for example, you have just learned the verb park, you would logically assume that a parkway is where you should park your <u>car. Of</u> course, when most people see a parkway or a driveway, they realize that braking on a parkway would be hazardous, while speeding through a driveway will not take them very far. However, our language is full of idiomatic expressions that may be difficult for a person from another language background to understand. Fortunately, there are plenty of questions to keep us all confused, such as why Americans commonly refer to going to work as "punching the clock."</p>