Run-ons
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Definition of a Run-on
A run-on has two or more independent clauses that are incorrectly put together. A clause has both a subject and a verb; most clauses also have other elements, such as objects, modifiers, and phrases.

A run-on may lack correct joining words between the clauses:
- Grammar exercises often are fun they can improve one’s analytical skills.

A run-on also may be incorrectly punctuated, whether or not any joining words are being used:
- We can do interactive grammar exercises, we first need to find a good website.
- We can do interactive grammar exercises, however we first need to find a good website.

Kinds of Run-ons
1. A fused sentence contains two independent clauses that are put together with no joining words and with no punctuation:
   - Learning grammar by doing online quizzes can be fun interactive quizzes can be found on many websites.
2. A comma splice contains two independent clauses that are connected with just a comma:
   - Learning grammar by doing online quizzes can be fun, interactive quizzes can be found on many websites.

How to Revise Run-ons
1. A semi-colon or a period can be used:
   - Learning grammar by doing online quizzes can be fun; interactive quizzes can be found on many websites.
   - Learning grammar by doing online quizzes can be fun. Interactive quizzes can be found on many websites.
2. A coordinating conjunction with a comma can be used:
   - Grammar exercises often are fun, and they can improve one’s analytical skills.
3. Many kinds of coordinate and subordinate structures can be used to restructure one or both of a run-on’s clauses, such as these examples illustrate:
   - Grammar exercises often are fun and can improve one’s analytical skills.
   - Grammar exercises often are fun; furthermore, they can improve one’s analytical skills.
   - Grammar exercises often are fun because they can improve one’s analytical skills.
   - Grammar exercises, which often are fun, can improve one’s analytical skills.

Websites with Practice Quizzes
- The OWL’s Online Writing Lab at Purdue University: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/