

# “Run On” Sentences

Run-on sentences consist of two or more independent clauses with little punctuation.

**My mother likes to cook and she cooks delicious cakes and cookies and I love the smell of the house whenever she is baking something because it makes my mouth water.**

Run-on sentences can be corrected in one of three ways:

- *by using a period to make separate independent clauses*
- *by using a subordinating conjunction to connect the clauses, or*
- *by adding extra words.*

Note how much easier it is to read the above passage with correct punctuation and the use of conjunctions.

***My mother likes to cook and her cakes and cookies are especially delicious. I love the smell of the house whenever she is baking because it makes my mouth water.***

**Edit the following run-on sentences using one of the solutions listed above:**

- 1 The first dog I had after graduating from college was named Fred and he was a great dog and he loved to play ball and get a bath but he also had a tendency to chew my shoes and plants when he was a puppy that made me very angry.
- 2 The other day John got a speeding ticket when he was driving through a school zone at forty-five kilometres per hour and the speed limit was only fifteen kilometres per hour but he didn't realize it was the first day of school so he wasn't paying too much attention to the traffic sign in the middle of the road and he was very angry at the policeman because he was rude and would not give him a break.
- 3 During the 1950's and 1960's the state of Arizona was one of the world's top producers of cotton because of the favourable weather and long-lasting growing season, not commonly found in other parts of the world.
- 4 Some people speculate that a cow kicked over a lantern near the O'Leary barn and the resulting fire, with flames being driven by strong winds from the southwest resulted in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871.
- 5 Leaving Roosevelt Field, Long Island on May 20, 1927 Charles Lindbergh embarked on his historic solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean, arriving thirty-three and a half hours and 3500 miles later at Le Bourget Field outside Paris at 10:22 PM on May 21st, 1927.
- 6 Our house is great because it's much bigger than our last house and is in a cul-de-sac, which is very safe for the kids and quiet because there are no passing cars, and the neighbours are very nice, too.
- 7 As with everything else it's important to treat drugs with respect because while they can do you good their wrongful use can result in great harm and even kill you, which is all very obvious but for some reason many people don't understand what is obvious and end up killing themselves by taking the wrong dose in too big a dose or too frequently.