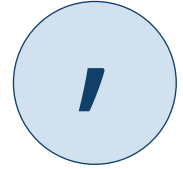




SPaG Starters Comma Splicing

When writing, people might avoid run-on sentences by joining together two independent clauses using a comma. This is called a comma splice - but it is incorrect.



The independent clauses can theoretically be stand alone sentences, or if the writer chooses to join them together, they should use a conjunction or a semi-colon.

There are three ways that you can avoid or correct a comma splice:

1. Join the independent clauses using a conjunction.
2. Replace the comma with a semi-colon.
3. Replace the comma with a full stop.

e.g.

The revision session was incredibly helpful, it touched on everything that might come up in the exam.

The sentence is made up of two independent clauses therefore should not be separated with a comma.

You could use the conjunction *because* to join the clauses or change the comma into a semi-colon/ full stop.

Choosing any of the three options mentioned above, correct the comma splices in the sentences below:

1. I was elated when I got my test results in English today, I got full marks.

2. I'm staying late at school tomorrow, we are practising for the school performance, the first show is in three days.

3. They got picked up after basketball on Thursday, it was raining heavily, none of them had coats with them.

4. Have you seen our homework for this week, we have to do a full project?

5. Adam texted his brother to see if he had finished hockey practice, he was going to walk home with him.



SPaG Starters **Comma Splicing Answers**

There are numerous variations for each of the above sentences. Below you can find a correct example for each, but other correct variations can also be considered.

1. I was elated when I got my test results in English today **as** I got full marks.
2. I'm staying late at school tomorrow **because** we are practising for the school performance. The first show is in three days.
3. They got picked up after basketball on Thursday. It was raining heavily; none of them had coats with them.
4. Have you seen our homework for this week? We have to do a full project.
5. Adam texted his brother to see if he had finished hockey practice. He was going to walk home with him.

