

Mechanics and Usage: Correcting Run-on Sentences

RULES

- A **run-on sentence** contains two or more complete sentences that run together.

A stonefish looks like a rock this disguise fools other fish.

- To fix a run-on sentence, show each complete sentence by using a capital letter and the correct end punctuation.

A stonefish looks like a rock. This disguise fools other fish.

- You can also fix a run-on sentence by rewriting it as a compound sentence.

A stonefish looks like a rock, and this disguise fools other fish.

Tell which sentences are written correctly. Circle **run-on** or **correct**.

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|---|---------------|----------------|
| 1. A stonefish never goes hungry. Its food comes right to it! | run-on | correct |
| 2. Looking like a stone helps the stonefish get its food, and it also protects it from other creatures. | run-on | correct |
| 3. One kind of fish looks like a clump of seaweed another looks like a piece of coral. | run-on | correct |
| 4. A ferocious inhabitant of a coral reef is the moray eel it is an ugly looking creature. | run-on | correct |
| 5. A four-inch-long fish swims straight to the eel. It is unaware of any danger. | run-on | correct |
| 6. The little fish swims about the eel it often touches the eel. | run-on | correct |
| 7. The little fish swims right into the eel's half-opened mouth then it swims out again. | run-on | correct |
| 8. The ever-hungry eel did not try to eat the little fish. The eel remains perfectly still. | run-on | correct |
| 9. The little fish is like a doctor, and the eel is like a patient. | run-on | correct |
| 10. The little fish, called a <i>wrasse</i> , cleans the big fish it rids the big fish of tiny worms and other creatures. | run-on | correct |

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At Home: Choose a run-on sentence from above and rewrite it as two complete sentences or a compound sentence.

McGraw-Hill Language Arts
Grade 4, Unit 1, Sentences,
pages 24-25

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