# Writing Centre

# RUN-ON SENTENCES

**What is a run-on sentence?**

A run-on sentence occurs when two or more sentences are joined together to form one without any punctuation.

**Example of a run-on sentence:**

Jack was the most successful president in the company’s history sales had never been higher under anyone else.

**How to fix this run-on sentence:**

A run-on sentence is incorrect because it is missing necessary punctuation. To fix one, we must find the proper punctuation and insert it. In the case of our example, we must insert a **semicolon** **(;)** to separate two independent clauses that are related.

Jack was the most successful president in the company’s history; sales had never been higher under anyone else.

**Another example of a run-on sentence:**

Although it only took fifteen minutes Tony thought the presentation had taken much longer.

**How to fix this run-on sentence:**

For this example, we would insert a **comma (,)**.

Although it only took fifteen minutes, Tony thought the presentation had taken much longer.

Always be careful with run-on sentences. Make sure everything is properly punctuated. If you are unsure, say the sentence out loud to yourself. This can help you determine whether or not the sentence requires punctuation.

**Source:**

[ace.acadiau.ca](http://ace.acadiau.ca/english/grammar/runon.htm)

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