PACKET 5

ERWC

A run-on sentence occurs when two sentences (two main clauses) are punctuated as though they form a single sentence. There are two types of run-on sentences:

- Two sentences that are joined with no punctuation
- Two sentences that are joined with only a comma

The following sentences are examples of run-on sentences.

- In our society celebrities are often seen as authorities this is an example of the power of image.
 - (Two sentences are joined together without any punctuation between them.)
- We value logic and rationality, arguments based on logos are often persuasive.
 - (Two sentences are joined together with only a comma between them.)

Correcting Run-On Sentences

- 1. Make a **separate sentence** out of each main clause:
 - We value logic and rationality. Arguments based on logos are often persuasive.
- 2. Combine the clauses with a **comma and a coordinating conjunction.**This method is useful when you have two ideas of equal importance, and you want to show the relationship between them:
 - We value logic and rationality, so arguments based on logos are often persuasive.

Coordinating conjunctions are and, for, yet, but, so, or, and nor.

Correcting Run-On Sentences

- 3. Make one clause a **subordinate clause**. This is an effective way to solve the problem if one of the clauses is less important than the other.
 - Because we value logic and rationality, arguments based on logos are often persuasive.

Common subordinating words are because, since, when, whenever, even though, although, though, if, unless, while, before, where, as . . . as, who, which, that, whose, and whom.

- 4. Combine the clauses with a **semicolon** (;). This method is effective when the two clauses are very closely related and you don't want to break them up with another word. Be careful to use semicolons only when the ideas are closely related; don't use them simply as an alternative to periods.
 - We value logic and rationality; arguments based on logos are often persuasive.

Correcting Run-On Sentences

- 5. Combine the clauses with a **semicolon and a transition word followed by a comma.** This method is also useful when you have two equally important ideas, and you want to show their logical relationship.
 - We value logic and rationality; consequently, arguments based on logos are often persuasive.

Common transition words are therefore, thus, however, nevertheless, furthermore, consequently, and then.

GRAMMAR TASK: RHET. OP ED ACT. 2

Correcting Run-On Sentences

This activity is based on Jeremy Rifkin, "A Change of Heart About Animals."

Correct the following run-on sentences. Use a different option to correct each.

- 1. Researchers are finding that many of our fellow creatures are more like us than we ever imagined, these findings are changing how we view animals.
 - 1. Researchers are finding that many of our fellow creatures are more like us than we ever imagined. These findings are changing how we view animals.
- 2. Fast food companies are being pressured by animal-rights activists, they are financing research into animal emotions and behavior.
- 3. Pigs crave affection and are easily depressed the lack of mental or physical stimuli can result in deterioration of health.
- 4. In Germany farmers give pigs human contact each day, they also provide them with toys to prevent them from fighting.
- 5. New Caledonian crows make hooks from wire to snag food Koko, a gorilla in Northern California, understands several thousand English words.
- 6. We thought tool-making and sophisticated language skills are exclusively human attributes, self-awareness is another.

GRAMMAR TASK: CORRECTING SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT ERRORS

Correcting Subject-Verb Agreement Errors

If two or more subjects are joined by the conjunctions *and, or,* or *nor,* the conjunction determines if you use a singular or a plural verb.

 When the subject of a sentence is composed of two or more nouns or pronouns connected by and, use a plural verb.

Incorrect: <u>Anger and pity is powerful emotions</u>.

Correct: <u>Anger and pity are powerful emotions.</u>

• When the subject of a sentence is composed of two or more singular nouns or pronouns connected by *or* or *nor*, use a **singular verb**.

Incorrect: Either <u>anger or pity are</u> an emotion that can cause us to take action.

Correct: Either <u>anger or pity is</u> an emotion that can cause us to take action.

• When the subject of a sentence is composed of a singular and a plural noun connected by or or nor, the noun closest to the verb determines whether it is singular or plural.

Incorrect: In the commercial, neither the <u>doctor</u> nor the <u>advertisers is</u> being completely honest.

Correct: In the commercial, neither the <u>doctor</u> nor the <u>advertisers are</u> being completely honest.

Day 3

GRAMMAR TASK: CORRECTING SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT ERRORS

If the subject and verb are separated by a phrase or clause, make sure the verb still agrees with the true subject of the sentence—not with a noun or pronoun in the phrase or clause.

Examples

One of the philosophers <u>is</u>	"philosophers" is not the subject
The <u>people</u> who understand rhetoric <u>are</u>	"rhetoric" is not the subject
The <u>farmer</u> , as well as his neighbors, <u>is</u>	"neighbors" is not the subject
The <u>farmer</u> with all the pigs <u>is</u> <u>playing</u>	"pigs" is not the subject

Day 3

GRAMMAR TASK: CORRECTING SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT ERRORS

Some words that might sound plural are actually singular and take a singular verb. These words are each, each one, either, neither, everyone, everybody, anybody, anyone, nobody, somebody, someone, and no one.

Examples <u>Each</u> of these animals <u>is</u> <u>Either</u> of the philosophers <u>is</u> <u>Everyone is</u> ("Everyone" seems plural, but the verb agrees with "one," which is singular.)

In sentences beginning with "there is" or "there are," be aware "there" is not the true subject. Therefore, the verb has to agree with the noun that *follows* the verb.

Examples

There <u>are many arguments</u>

There <u>is</u> an <u>argument</u>

Many words in English that were originally Greek end with an –s but are singular. Some examples are **ethos**, **pathos**, **logos**, **ethics**, and **mathematics**. Other singular words that end in –s include **news** and **measles**.

Examples

The <u>ethos</u> of a writer helps determine whether we believe his or her argument.

The ethics of doctors forbids them to do harm.

The good <u>news</u> is that toys prevent pigs from fighting.

GRAMMARTASK: RHET. OP ED. ACT. 3

Correcting Subject-Verb Agreement Errors

This activity is based on John Edlund, "Three Ways to Persuade."

Identify the subject and verb. Then correct the subject-verb agreement problems. <u>Double-underline</u> the verb and <u>underline</u> the subject in these sentences. Note: All verbs should be in the present tense. When you are finished, compare your answers with a partner. If you are not sure about a sentence, ask your teacher for help.

- 1. For Aristotle, a speaker's character contribute to whether the audience will believe the speaker's argument.
 - Character contributes
- 2. There is several other reasons why an audience might believe an argument.
- 3. Advertising, both for products and in politics, depend on the *ethos* of the person in the advertisement.
- 4. One of the advertisements use a slender movie star to sell a new diet drug.
- 5. Each of the advertisements that rely on celebrities are really deceptive.