

Comma Splices

1. **Definition:** A comma splice occurs when two independent clauses are connected with a comma. (An independent clause has a subject and a verb, and it can stand alone as a grammatical unit.)

Example: I studied hard during the semester, I made good grades.

2. **Ways to Correct a Comma Splice:** I like cats, I also like dogs.

a) Add a coordinating conjunction like *and* after the comma.

I like cats, *and* I like dogs.

b) Turn the comma into a semi-colon.

I like cats; I like dogs.

c) Add a period and write the two clauses as two separate sentences.

I like cats. I like dogs.

2. **Practice:** Correct the sentences below.

(Please note that there are multiple ways to correct the following sentences.)

1. Entrepreneurship is the study of small businesses, college students are embracing it enthusiastically.
2. My father is chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, he also heads the Warrant Commission.
3. Many elderly citizens now take courses at the university, some schools even offer senior citizens special programs.
4. Students in the English 103 struggled hard during the semester, many dropped out along the way, many succeeded.

Key: 1.) business; college 2.) Relations. He 3.) University, and some 4). semester; many