

COMMA SPLICES

AVOID COMMA SPLICES

A [splice](#) is an error similar to a fused sentence. A fused sentence joins two [\(main\) clauses](#) without a and/or proper punctuation. A comma splice joins two complete sentences with a comma. However, a comma is not strong enough to join two independent (main) clauses. You can correct a comma splice by using the same five methods used to correct fused sentences.

- NOT:** Mecca is Islam's holiest city, Medina is also an important religious center.
BUT: Mecca is Islam's holiest city. Medina is also an important religious center.
OR: Mecca is Islam's holiest city, but Medina is also an important religious center.
OR: Mecca is Islam's holiest city; Medina is also an important religious center.
OR: Mecca is Islam's holiest city; however, Medina is also an important religious center.
OR: Although Mecca is Islam's holiest city, Medina is also an important religious center.

Sample Quiz questions:

1. One of the following items contains a comma splice, another is a run – on (or fused) sentence, and a third is correct. Click on the item that is correct.
 - a. My motorcycle wouldn't start on Friday it had been hit by lightning.
 - b. My motorcycle wouldn't start on Friday, for it had been hit by lightning.
 - c. My motorcycle wouldn't start on Friday, it had been hit by lightning.

Answer: b. My motorcycle wouldn't start on Friday, for it had been hit by lightning

2. One of the following items contains a comma splice, another is a run – on (or fused) sentence, and a third is correct. Click on the item that is correct.
 - a. The forecaster said it would rain on Sunday it might be sunny.
 - b. The forecaster said it would rain; however, on Sunday it might be sunny.
 - c. The forecaster said it would rain, on Sunday it might be sunny.

Answer: b. The forecaster said it would rain; however, on Sunday it might be sunny.