

Sentence Sense:

Run On Sentences:

A run on sentence means you have too many complete thoughts in one sentence without correct punctuation.

Three ways to “fix” ROS:

Red Light: (come to a complete stop)

- Use a period, exclamation mark, question mark
- Use a ; (semi colon)
 - (If the ideas are related and you could replace it with a period and capital--put your finger over the semi colon to check!)

Yellow Light:

- Use a comma with a *joining word* between two complete ideas.
 - Joining words: and, or, but, nor, so, yet, for
 - We were served the wrong meals the food was cold. (ROS)
 - We were served the wrong meal, and the food was cold. (corrected with comma and joining word)

Green light: no punctuation needed inside a short sentence.

Sentence Fragments

A DEPENDENT CLAUSE (**ladder**) cannot stand alone in a sentence. It needs an independent clause (**wall or complete thought**) to be considered a complete sentence; it is not a complete thought.

Ex. While I set the table.

An INDEPENDENT CLAUSE is the main clause of a sentence. It can stand alone in a sentence; it is a complete thought. Every complete sentence must contain at least one independent clause.

Ex. Jennifer made dinner.

A dependent clause will begin with a DEPENDENT CUE. Here is a list of dependent cues:

although	after	as, as if	as long as
as soon as	before	because	even, even though, even if
if	in order that	instead of	provided that
since	so, so that	though, throughout	
while	which, whichever	when, whenever	until

***If you see one of these words, you have a ladder; you must attach it to a complete thought (wall) with a comma.**

***Good writing includes a mix of short independent clauses and dependent clauses attached to independent clauses.**

*Make sure that you do not confuse dependent cues with the following transition words / phrases:

However	Besides	In fact	Moreover
Furthermore	Thus	Consequently	Nevertheless
Similarly	Therefore	For example	For instance
In contrast	In comparison		

- 1) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE ; INDEPENDENT CLAUSE.
- 2) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE . INDEPENDENT CLAUSE.
- 3) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE , conjunction INDEPENDENT CLAUSE.
- 4) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE : LIST.
- 5) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE : EXAMPLE.
- 6) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE : QUOTATION.
- 7) INDEPENDENT CLAUSE DEPENDENT CLAUSE.
- 8) DEPENDENT CLAUSE, INDEPENDENT CLAUSE.
- 9) Any word (or group of , INDEPENDENT CLAUSE words) that isn't an independent clause