

Comma Splices & Run-On Sentences 2

There are three basic ways to correct comma splices and run-ons: (1) use a comma and a coordinating conjunction, (2) use a semicolon, or (3) make the clauses into separate sentences. Turn to page 557 in *Write Source*.

Correct the following sentences by inserting a semicolon, a period and a capital letter, or a comma and a coordinating conjunction. Use each method at least twice.

Answers will vary.

1. Psychology is the science that studies all kinds of behavior. ~~the behavior~~ may be normal, ^{or} the behavior may be abnormal.
2. Psychologists try to find answers to questions about thoughts, feelings, and actions. ~~and~~ ^T their findings help us understand why people behave as they do.
3. In the late 1800s, psychology developed into a science based on observation and experimentation. [;] prior to that, there were no systematic studies of the mind.
4. Sigmund Freud introduced the theory that behavior is determined by the unconscious mind. ^{and} he developed techniques to uncover repressed feelings.
5. Many psychologists disagree with some of Freud's ideas. ^{but} most accept that the unconscious has a major effect on behavior.
6. Cognitive psychologists concentrate on thinking processes and self-awareness. ^T they believe there's more to human nature than a response to a stimulus.
7. Humanistic psychologists trust that people's values and choices affect their behavior. ^T they believe the psychologist helps people to realize their unique possibilities.
8. Understanding of individuals and groups has broadened because of these psychological studies. [;] the insights from these studies can benefit people in their everyday lives.

Extend: Write three run-on sentences about whatever you believe influences your behavior. Exchange papers with a classmate and correct each other's work.