FRAGMENTS

Mastery Test 4

Underline and then correct the ten fragments in the following passage.

When my mother was a young girl. She spent several summers on her aunt and uncle's farm. To this day she has vivid memories of the chores she did on the farm. Such as shucking corn for dinners and for canning. As she pulled off the moist brown cornsilk. Yellow worms would wiggle on the ear or drop off into her lap. Another task was preparing string beans. Which had to be picked over before the beans would be cooked. My mother and her aunt spent hours snapping the ends off the beans. And tossing each one into a large basin. But the chore my mother remembers most clearly is preparing a chicken for Sunday dinner. Her aunt would head for the chicken yard. Somehow, the chickens seemed to know her purpose. They ran wildly in all directions. Fluttering and squawking, or fleeing into the henhouse. When Aunt Helen found the right chicken. She picked it up and gave its neck a quick twist. Killing it instantly. Back in the kitchen, she and my mother would gut the chicken. And pluck its feathers out, down to the last tiny pinfeather. One special treat came out of this bloody chore. My mother always got the chicken feet to play with. Their long white tendons still attached. As my mother pulled on the tendons, the claws opened and closed like mechanical toys. My mother loved to terrorize her friends with these moving claws.

Score: Number correct ______ × 10 = ______ %
RUN-ONS

Mastery Test 1

In the space provided, write R-O beside run-on sentences. Write C beside sentences that are punctuated correctly. Some of the run-ons have no punctuation between the two complete thoughts; others have only a comma.

Correct each run-on by using (1) a period and a capital letter, (2) a comma and a joining word, or (3) a semicolon. Do not use the same method of correction in each case.

Examples

R-O
I applied for the job, but never got called in for an interview.

R-O
Carla’s toothache is getting worse; she should go to a dentist soon.

1. I had a very bad headache. I felt light-headed and feverish as well.

2. Our children have the newest electronic games; the house sounds like a pinball arcade.

3. Two men held up the ski shop; they were wearing bank tellers’ masks.

4. Swirls of dust flew across the field; good topsoil vanished into the distance.

5. I cannot get a definite commitment from Beth; I decided not to count on her.

6. The soup was too hot to eat; so I dropped it in two ice cubes and cooled it off quickly.

7. The course on the history of UFOs sounded interesting; it turned out to be very dull.

8. That clothing store is a strange place to visit; you keep walking up to dummies that look like real people.

9. Martha throws out old pieces of soap; for she can’t stand the sharp edges of the worn-down bars.

10. The oil warning light came on; Gerry foolishly continued to drive the car.

Score: Number correct _______ × 10 = _______%
RUN-ONS

Mastery Test 2

Correct the run-on in each item by using subordination. Choose from among the following dependent words:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>after</th>
<th>before</th>
<th>unless</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>although</td>
<td>even though</td>
<td>until</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as</td>
<td>if</td>
<td>when</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>because</td>
<td>since</td>
<td>while</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example  The bus drivers are on strike, I had to walk to work today.

Because the bus drivers are on strike, I had to walk to work today.

1. Nick pulled the cellophane off the cake, the icing came along with it.

2. Sherrie was late for the job interview she still got the job.

3. I threw some potatoes into the oven I then prepared the salmon loaf.

4. Winters in New England are very cold Cindy decided to move to the Sun Belt.

5. I’ve been using a calculator for a year, I’ve almost forgotten the multiplication tables.

Score: Number correct _____ \times 20 = _____ %
RUN-ONS

Mastery Test 4

Correct the run-on in each sentence by using subordination. Choose from among the following dependent words:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>after</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. My boss needs me to work overtime, I can’t study for the test.

2. A storm was predicted for later in the day we still decided to go for a hike.

3. Fred’s shirt sleeve caught on fire, his wife quickly dumped a pitcher of iced tea on it.

4. I was very tired at the end of the day, I still managed to complete a paper for my English class.

5. Marilyn took a year of accounting courses in school she decided to switch to another major.

Score: Number correct _______ × 20 = _______ %