

Exercise on Comma Splices and Fused Sentences

In the following pairs, one sentence is correct; and the other sentence has a comma splice or is a fused sentence. Mark the CORRECT answer.

1. A _____ The computer hummed loudly. The sound was distracting.
B _____ The computer hummed loudly the sound was distracting.

Answer A is correct.

Answer B is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

2. A _____ Fast-food restaurants are changing, now they offer healthier food choices.
B _____ Fast-food restaurants are changing. Now they offer healthier food choices.

Answer A is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

Answer B is correct.

3. A _____ Anna wants to teach children, so she will become a first grade teacher.
B _____ Anna wants to teach children she will become a first grade teacher.

Answer A is correct. (If you thought this sentence had a comma splice, remember that you can join two sentences with a comma and a coordinating conjunction.)

Answer B is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

4. A _____ This coffee is several hours old. It tastes terrible.
B _____ This coffee is several hours old, it tastes terrible.

Answer A correct.

Answer B is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

5. A _____ There was an accident on the highway today traffic was stopped for three hours.

B _____ There was an accident on the highway today. Traffic was stopped for three hours.

Answer A is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

Answer B is correct.

6. A _____ The alarm clock fell off the table. Then it started ringing.

B _____ The alarm clock fell off the table, then it started ringing.

Answer A is correct.

Answer B is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

7. A _____ My husband is grumpy early in the morning, he is cheerful after drinking his fifth cup of coffee.

B _____ My husband is grumpy early in the morning, but he is cheerful after drinking his fifth cup of coffee.

Answer A is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

Answer B is correct.

8. A _____ June is a month of nice weather. It is also the most popular month for weddings.

B _____ June is a month of nice weather it is also the most popular month for weddings.

Answer A is correct.

Answer B is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

9. A _____ The cat slept on the porch swing she was enjoying the sunlight.
B _____ The cat slept on the porch swing. She was enjoying the sunlight.

Answer A is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.

Answer B is correct.

10. A _____ The saw and the hammer were rusty. They had been left out in the rain.
B _____ The saw and the hammer were rusty they had been left out in the rain.

Answer A is correct.

Answer B is incorrect. There are two independent clauses.