

## Comma Splice (Avoid!) *Writing*

**Comma Splice** = avoid using just a comma to join two sentences.

Bad: *The bear found a cave, it then went to sleep.*

There are three ways to fix a comma splice:

- *The bear found a cave. It then went to sleep.* (separate sentences)
- *The bear found a cave; it then went to sleep.* (use semicolon)
- *The bear found a cave, **and** it then went to sleep.* (add a conjunction)

- Correct and rewrite the following sentences.

1. We enjoyed the movie about Africa, it seems like a different lifestyle.
2. My family eats dinner together every night, we have many great discussions.
3. Everyone devoured the tropical fruit, they ate the seafood later in the day.
4. South Dakota is my favorite state, it has Badlands National Park.
5. The weather forecast was very accurate, the snow arrived right on time.
6. Cleo knows the schedule, she purrs every day at 5:00 for dinner.
7. Rick found the three-legged table unique, he bought it for \$150.

Avoid comma splices in writing. However, sometimes (very sparingly) you can break the rule in fictional writing for dramatic effect:

*I came, I saw, I conquered.*

*It was beautiful, it was gorgeous, it was ravishing.*

8. Correct the three comma splices and rewrite the paragraph.

McMurdo Station is one of three American research stations in Antarctica. The station can support 1,250 residents, all people and supplies going to the South Pole pass through McMurdo. The station has a wharf, three airfields, 100 buildings, two ATM's, and a disc golf



McMurdo Station  
Antarctica

course. Since McMurdo is located in the Southern Hemisphere, the seasons are opposite of the United States. The warmest month is December, the average daytime temperature is 25° F. The average daytime temperature in August is -9° F., the station's nickname is "Mac Town."

## Comma Splice (Avoid!)

### *Writing*

**Comma Splice** = avoid using just a comma to join two sentences.

Bad: *The bear found a cave, it then went to sleep.*

There are three ways to fix a comma splice:

- *The bear found a cave. It then went to sleep.* (separate sentences)
- *The bear found a cave; it then went to sleep.* (use semicolon)
- *The bear found a cave, **and** it then went to sleep.* (add a conjunction)

- Correct and rewrite the following sentences.

1. We enjoyed the movie about Africa, it seems like a different lifestyle.  
*We enjoyed the movie about Africa; it seems like a different lifestyle.*
2. My family eats dinner together every night, we have many great discussions.  
*My family eats dinner together every night, **and** we have many great discussions.*
3. Everyone devoured the tropical fruit, they ate the seafood later in the day.  
*Everyone devoured the tropical fruit. They ate the seafood later in the day.*
4. South Dakota is my favorite state, it has Badlands National Park.  
*South Dakota is my favorite state, **and** it has Badlands National Park.*
5. The weather forecast was very accurate, the snow arrived right on time.  
*The weather forecast was very accurate; the snow arrived right on time.*
6. Cleo knows the schedule, she purrs every day at 5:00 for dinner.  
*Cleo knows the schedule. She purrs every day at 5:00 for dinner.*
7. Rick found the three-legged table unique, he bought it for \$150.  
*Rick found the three-legged table unique, **and** he bought it for \$150.*

Avoid comma splices in writing. However, sometimes (very sparingly) you can break the rule in fictional writing for dramatic effect:

*I came, I saw, I conquered.*

*It was beautiful, it was gorgeous, it was ravishing.*

8. Correct the three comma splices and rewrite the paragraph.

McMurdo Station is one of three American research stations in Antarctica. The station can support 1,250 residents, all people and supplies going to the South Pole pass through McMurdo. The station has a wharf, three airfields, 100 buildings, two ATM's, and a disc golf course. Since McMurdo is located in the Southern Hemisphere, the seasons are opposite of the United States. The warmest month is December, the average daytime temperature is 25° F. The average daytime temperature in August is -9° F., the station's nickname is "Mac Town."



McMurdo  
Station

McMurdo Station is one of three American research stations in Antarctica. The station can support 1,250 residents. All people and supplies going to the South Pole pass through McMurdo. The station has a wharf, three airfields, 100 buildings, two ATM's, and a disc golf course. Since McMurdo is located in the Southern Hemisphere, the seasons are opposite of the United States. The warmest month is December, and the average daytime temperature is 25° F. The average daytime temperature in August is -9° F. The station's nickname is "Mac Town."