

Lesson 1 week 2

- Can I break up sentences with full stops to avoid comma splicing?

Fast Five

Insert inverted commas in the correct place:

- 1) I'm so hungry, moaned Paul I could eat a horse.
- 2) What do you think you're doing? screamed the woman.
- 3) It's almost time to go home, said Ben.
- 4) Do you know where Manchester is? asked Bill.
- 5) I'm going out mum, said the young boy

Fast Five Answers

Insert inverted commas in the correct place:

- 1) "I'm so hungry," moaned Paul "I could eat a horse."
- 2) "What do you think you're doing?" screamed the woman.
- 3) "It's almost time to go home," said Ben.
- 4) "Do you know where Manchester is?" asked Bill.
- 5) "I'm going out mum," said the young boy

What is a comma splice?

A comma splice is when we join two main clauses with a comma. Each clause in the sentence makes sense on its own.

e.g. Tom is playing football, he is hoping to play for Manchester United one day.

e.g. Gerald is going shopping, he is going to get his groceries.

This is wrong and needs to be fixed.

How can we correct a comma splice?

- Full stops, semi-colons and co-ordinating conjunctions can all be used but today we are going to look at the use of full stops.
- We use full stops when the two clauses are **independent** and make sense on their own. We want to give equal emphasis to each of them.
- Using a semi-colon or conjunction makes more of a connection between the clauses.
- Full stops can be quite blunt.

- Between two main clauses, we can use a **full stop**.
- Make sure you remember to use a capital letter for the second main clause:
- Jamal is playing golf, he is hoping to be a champion one day.
Jamal is playing golf. **H**e is hoping to be a champion one day.
- Gerald is going shopping, he is going to get his groceries.
Gerald is going shopping. **H**e is going to get his groceries.

Can you use full stops to fix these comma splices?

- The alien pointed his ray gun, he was going to shoot.
- My mum bought me a balloon, she told me to hold on to it tightly.
- Henry visited the museum yesterday, he also went to the park.
- Charlie kicked the door, he was fed up.

Answers

- The alien pointed his ray gun. He was going to shoot.
- My mum bought me a balloon. She told me to hold on to it tightly.
- Henry visited the museum yesterday. He also went to the park.
- Charlie kicked the door. He was fed up.