

## Comma-splice Errors

A **comma splice** occurs when two independent clauses are joined with only a comma.

**EXAMPLE:** My mother spends several hours a day on her garden, I have to help by taking my brother to baseball practice.

To correct a **comma splice**, do one of the following:

- **Separate the clauses into two sentences.**

EX: My mother spends several hours a day on her garden. I have to help by taking my brother to baseball practice.

- **Link the clauses with a comma and a coordinating conjunction.**

Coordinating conjunctions help combine two independent clauses. To remember them think of: **FANBOYS** (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)

EX: My mother spends several hours a day on her garden, **so** I have to help by taking my brother to baseball practice.

- **Link the clauses with a semicolon.**

EX: My mother spends several hours a day on her garden; I have to help by taking my brother to baseball practice.

- **Link the clauses with a conjunctive adverb.**

Conjunctive adverbs link two independent clauses together by showing the relationship between ideas. Here are some of them:

also however otherwise consequently

indeed similarly finally furthermore

then likewise moreover therefore

hence thus nevertheless nonetheless

EX: My mother spends several hours a day on her garden; **therefore**, I have to help by taking my brother to baseball practice.

- **Change one of the clauses to a dependent using a subordinate conjunction.**

EX: **Because** my mother spends several hours a day on her garden, I have to help by taking my brother to baseball practice