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## 2. RUN-ONS AND FRAGMENTS

### Run-On Sentences

The ice-cream man stopped at the pool and left the ice cream in the sun. He dove in the pool. The ice cream in the truck melted.

You write: He dove in the ice cream in the truck was melted glop.

Readers think: He dove in the ice cream. In the truck was melted glop.

You mean: He dove in. *The* ice cream in the truck was melted glop.



#### THE LOGIC

Leaving out the boundaries between sentences confuses the reader. It is not clear which words go with which sentence.

#### THE RULE

Separate sentences to communicate clearly. Use a capital at the beginning, place ending punctuation after the first complete thought, and start a new sentence with a capital letter.

### PRACTICE

- Add a period, cross out the lowercase letter, and add a capital to show where sentences should be divided. Make exactly two sentences for each line. The first one is done for you.
  - We watch the man as he runs, ~~h~~<sup>H</sup> he gets tired quickly.
  - She gave me a watch that works I know the right time.
  - I thought it was noon when will we be going?
- Add a period and capital only where needed. Think about the meaning!
  - The man runs as long as he has energy he gets tired quickly.
  - The doctor got rid of the pain that makes me feel good.
  - She hates that bully. He took her stuffed bear that makes her feel good.