Run-On Sentences

"Fine, if Ethan gets to go somewhere of his choosing, I get to pick next," said The Professor. "It's time I visited an old friend...Mr. William Shakespeare."

"How goes it, Shakes?" said The Professor as he entered the Globe Theatre.

"Terrible!" he said with a flourish. "My lines are just too long. My actors are running out of breath! Here, can you take a look at some of my drafts? I'd love to know what you think."

Shakespeare is considered to be one of the greatest writers that ever lived. Over the course of his career, he wrote several plays, many of which are still performed today, and classic poems as well.



A **run-on sentence** is a sentence that contains too much information and often has too many subjects and predicates. Help Shakespeare divide these run-on sentences into multiple sentences.

EXAMPLE

Oh, Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo? Deny your father and refuse your name, but if you don't, make sure you swear your love to me, and I'll no longer be a Capulet.

Oh, Romeo, Romeo! Wherefore art thou, Romeo? Deny your father and refuse your name. If you don't, make sure you swear your love to me. If you can do that, I'll no longer be a Capulet.

1. If we actors have offended, just think this, and all is mended: that you have but slumbered here while us actors did appear, and this weak and idle scene is nothing more than just a dream.
If we actors have offended, just think this, and all is mended. You have but slumbered
here while us actors did appear. This weak and idle scene is nothing more than just a dream.
2. All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players, because each person has their exits and their entrances, and in one lifetime, a person plays many different parts—approximately seven different ones.
All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. Each person has
their exits and their entrances. In one lifetime, a person plays many different parts –
approximately seven different ones.
3. We few, we happy few, we band of brothers—for any man that fights with me today shall become my brother, no matter who he is, and gentlemen in England will curse themselves for not being here in battle with us today, because we are about to fight one of the greatest battles in history. We few, we happy, we band of brothers! For any man that fights with me today shall
become my brother, no matter who he is. Gentleman in England will curse themselves for
not being here in battle with us today. Because we are about to fight one of the greatest
battles in history.

4. What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name, would smell as sweet, so Romeo, even if he were not named Romeo, would still be just as perfect.
What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name, would smell as sweet.
So Romeo, even if he were not named Romeo, would still be just as perfect.
5. Therefore, since brevity is the soul of wit, and since dragging things out never helps, I'll keep it brief: your son is mad.
Brevity is the soul of wit. And since dragging things out never helps, I'll keep it brief.
Your son is mad.