



# **YOUR GUIDE TO COLLEGE WRITING**

**Daniel Couch**



**Solution:**

I'll buy anything on sale if I'll buy a used rest stop.

The *subordinating conjunction* turns the second idea into a dependent clause that presents a condition that would make the first and more important idea true. Again, don't separate the dependent clause from the rest of the predicate with a comma. It's just not done.

**Option 4: Use a Semicolon to Show a Very Close Relationship**

If you want to emphasize that the two ideas in the run-on are very closely related, you can join them with a semicolon and keep them as a single sentence.

**1. Problem:**

You make me so angry I love you so much.

| Have you two considered counseling? This is still a fused sentence.

**Solution 1:**

You make me so angry; I love you so much.

By adding a **semicolon**, you tell the reader that these two independent clauses are so closely related that you can't bear to put even a period between them.

**Solution 2:**

You make me so angry; therefore, I love you so much.

You can also add a *transitional word or phrase* after the **semicolon** to suggest the relationship of the two independent clauses. Put a comma after the *transition* because it's an introduction.

**2. Problem:**

The rest stop smelled like urine it had a beautiful view.

| This is a foul-smelling fused sentence composed of two independent clauses.

**Lousy Solution:**

The rest stop smelled like urine; it had a beautiful view.

This is a lousy solution because it takes two unrelated independent clauses and joins them with a **semicolon**. This is grammatically correct, but it suggests to the reader that the two ideas are very closely related when they aren't. So don't do this, in other words.