AVOIDING RUN-ONS & FRAGMENTS
(For the OPTIONS, REFER TO HANDOUT: 5 USEFUL WAYS TO JOIN IDEAS)

BE CAREFUL TO AVOID Run-ons & Fragments.

- Run-on sentence incorrectly runs together 2 independent clauses without a conjunction or punctuation.
  To CORRECT it: USE OPTION 1, or OPTION 2, or OPTION 3 of JOINING IDEAS.

- Dependent Clause Fragments: is incomplete in meaning, and often starts with a subordinating conjunction like although, because, if,....
  To CORRECT it: USE OPTION 4, or OPTION 5 of JOINING IDEAS.

*Example on the RUN-ON:
My neighbor is seventy-five years old he plays tennis every afternoon.
(RUN-ON: runs 2 independent)

TO CORRECT the run-on sentence:
OPTION 1: My neighbor is seventy-five years old, and he plays tennis every afternoon.
OPTION 2: My neighbor is seventy years old; he plays tennis every afternoon.
OPTION 3: My neighbor is seventy years old; however, he plays tennis every afternoon.

*Example on the FRAGMENT:
After his sister was diagnosed with anorexia. (FRAGMENT: incomplete in meaning, and starts with ‘after’) 

TO CORRECT the Fragment:
OPTION 4: Kirk decided to major in psychology after his sister was diagnosed with anorexia.
OPTION 5: After his sister was diagnosed with anorexia, Kirk decided to major in psychology.

Reference: