MHS ENGLISH DEPT **FIXING COMMA SPLICES** S2 HOMEWORK

**Comma splicing occurs when a comma is used incorrectly to join two sentences.**

**Commas don’t join! But conjunctions and semi colons do.**

**e.g.**

**Louisa loves shoes, she has over 100 pairs! COMMA SPLICE - this sentence is incorrectly written.**

**Louisa loves shoes and she has over 100 pairs. CORRECT – uses a conjunction.**

**Louisa loves shoes; she has over 100 pairs. CORRECT – uses a semi colon.**

**COPY the above.**

**TASK ONE: Below are ten statements about Scotland. Write the numbers 1-10 in your jotter and next to each number write ‘Comma Splice’ if the sentence has been incorrectly joined with a comma and ‘Correct’ if it has been joined with a conjunction.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Scotland’s capital city is Edinburgh, its largest city is Glasgow. |
| 2 | Scotland’s main islands are Shetland and Orkney yet it has around 800 small islands in total. |
| 3 | Edinburgh castle is Scotland’s most famous castle but many people don’t know it sits atop an extinct volcano. |
| 4 | David Cameron is Prime Minister of the UK, Alex Salmond is First Minister of Scotland. |
| 5 | The North Sea lies off Scotland’s east coast, the Atlantic Ocean lies off its North and West coasts. |
| 6 | Scotland has many distilleries where visitors can learn about the whisky making process. |
| 7 | 5.2 million people live in Scotland and 2.5 million people visit Scotland each year. |
| 8 | Scotland shares many festivals and celebrations with other countries although Hogmanay and Burns’ Night are essentially Scottish celebrations. |
| 9 | Sir Alex Ferguson is most famous for managing English club Manchester United despite he is Scottish. |
| 10 | Prince William famously attended St Andrews University, it is the third oldest university in the English speaking world. |

**(10)**

**TASK TWO: Rewrite all ten sentences using a semi-colon to join the sentences. Tip: you are simply replacing the commas and conjunctions with semi-colons. This will help give you more confidence in using semi colons. (10)**

**TASK THREE: The following statements about Andy Murray have been created by pupils to include on a poster about the tennis star. Some are correctly written, some are comma splices and some have used punctuation marks incorrectly! Rewrite the incorrect sentences correctly.**

1. Andy owns a hotel in Dunblane, his brother was married there.
2. Although he is the British number one, in September 2013 Andy Murray was ranked 3rd in the world.
3. Andy was born with a knee problem, it can still cause him problems on the court.
4. After tennis star, Andre Agassi, failed to give him his autograph, Andy vowed to always give his fans autographs.
5. Aged 15 Andy moved to Barcelona, there was a special tennis school for promising players.
6. In 2012 Andy Murray lost the Wimbledon final, he won the Olympic gold a month later.
7. Andy’s brother, Jamie, also plays tennis; they sometimes compete together in doubles tournaments.
8. Andy won his first Grand Slam at the American Open in 2012, he won the same title as a junior in 2004.
9. Andy won Wimbledon on the 7th day of the 7th month 2013, 77 years after the last British man claimed the title.
10. Andy’s mum was a professional tennis player before she became a full time tennis coach in 1994.

***This is out of 10 even though you won’t write out ten sentences; you will get marks for those you don’t write out as it shows you have identified them as correct***! **(10)**

**TOTAL 30**