Revising Comma Splices in Paragraphs

Directions: In the exercises below, look at each comma and decide if it is being used correctly. Then revise comma splices.

Exercise 1

Some people have an excessive fear of spiders, this is called arachnophobia. My daughter’s boyfriend is one of these people. He will flee in fear whenever he spies a spider indoors. In contrast, my daughter will capture them and calmly release them outside, there have been movies made, which exploit people's fears of these mostly harmless creatures. While it is true that a few varieties do have deadly bites, most spider bites cause little more than a temporary red spot on the skin. Even large, menacing looking spiders like tarantulas are not all that dangerous, many people keep them as pets.

Exercise 2

Starting college without word processing skills can be compared to starting to build a house without knowing how to use a hammer and nails. Unless you get good at these primary skills, building that house will take much more time and be riddled with bent nails (mistakes). Therefore, it is useful for all incoming students who are not computer literate to take a technology or keyboarding class, this will give them the foundation that they need to work with the computer in their upcoming classes. Many college instructors require that all papers be done on the computer rather than be handwritten, it is simply not efficient to keyboard with one or two fingers, and more mistakes tend to happen while using this slow method. Typing a single page could take over an hour when it could be done in a matter of minutes if one has good keyboarding skills. In addition, knowing how to save, print, and send papers can keep students from wasting precious work time, taking the time to learn computer skills early in one’s college career makes sense for all students and leads to a more successful and less frustrating experience.

Exercise 3

Having a car accident for the first time can be a frightening experience, especially if you are not prepared. It is very important to know ahead of time where all of your important papers are located, this includes your driver’s license, proof of insurance, and phone numbers of your insurance agent and a towing company if needed. If you are not injured in the accident, you should do the following: Stay calm and get out of the car to see if the person in the other car is okay. Then call the police to report the accident, especially if it is more serious than a slight fender bender, write down accident information, such as the street location, the name of the other driver, their insurance information and phone numbers, etc. Never admit fault to the accident at this point, even if you think it may be your fault, wait for the police to arrive, call your insurance agent as soon as possible to report the accident, giving them the information you wrote down at the scene.