

USING COLONS

For each of the following sentences, identify whether colons have been used correctly or incorrectly and then explain your choice.

e.g. Ben loves many sports: basketball, tennis, baseball, swimming and hockey.

Identify: Correct Explain: Here the colon is being correctly used to introduce a list, which follows.

1. He kept shouting: "I really want that new iPhone!"

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

2. She wanted to see three cities in England : London, Manchester and Oxford.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

3. You can come and collect me now: I am feeling better.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

4. Smoking on public transport: a bad idea.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

5. My mother would not stop shouting: "don't be home late."

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

6. I have never liked fast food: I work in advertising.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

7. There are two choices at this time: give up or fight.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

8. The new teacher is wonderful: friendly, kind and fair.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

USING SEMICOLONS

For each of the following sentences, *identify* whether semicolons have been used correctly or incorrectly and then *explain* your choice.

e.g. I know you don't like carrots; pizza is bad for your health.

Identify: Incorrect Explain: Here the semicolon is being incorrectly used used as the two independent clauses are unrelated.

1. You need new brakes; otherwise you may have a car accident.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

2. You need to bring the following items: hat; gloves; scarf; towel; and snacks.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

3. Many teachers are here: Mr. Smith, History; Mrs. Jen, English; and Ms. Po, Math.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

4. He is so dreamy; beautiful eyes, good skin and a great smile.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

5. So many options; I don't know what to choose on the menu.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

6. Jim loves tennis; and Sue loves basketball.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

7. I passed the driving test; also, I won the magazine competition.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

8. Bring a warm jacket with you; it gets cold at night.

Identify: _____ Explain: _____

USING COLONS & SEMICOLONS

Practice
WORKSHEET
THREE

Exercise One

For each of the following, fill in the missing colons or semicolons (choose the correct one):

1. You need to remember_ give your all to everything you do.
2. The following students must report to the principal_ Jim, Suzan, Vijay and Jo.
3. I always get up early_ sunrises are just so beautiful.
4. She just kept repeating_ "Don't you love me anymore?"
5. My head stopped spinning_ the room came back into focus_ I felt relieved.
6. The match was cancelled_ the pitch was rain-soaked.
7. Neil loves cake_ Robert loves biscuits.
8. You need many things to be a good cook_ an abundance of patience_ a love for experimentation_ lots of creativity_ and a good set of knives.
9. The manager had to make a decision_ claim bankruptcy or undergo prosecution.
10. Call me on Friday_ you can give me an answer then.

Exercise Two

Identify the correct sentence in each of the following:

- a) James has an abundance of clothing; jackets, jeans, waistcoats, and shirts.
- b) James has an abundance of clothing: jackets, jeans, waistcoats, and shirts.
- c) James has an abundance of clothing: jackets; jeans; waistcoats; and shirts.

- a) Suzan likes coffee; but Bo likes tea.
- b) Suzan likes coffee: Bo likes tea.
- c) Suzan likes coffee; Bo likes tea.

- a) I hear my father's voice in my head; "Always think before you speak."
- b) I hear my father's voice in my head: "Always think before you speak."
- c) I hear my father's voice in my head: "always think before you speak."

- a) I have a problem; I am in love with two men.
- b) I have a problem: I am in love with two men.
- c) I have a problem; as I am in love with two men.

- a) The concert was cancelled: the weather was bad; I was devastated.
- b) The concert was cancelled; the weather was bad; I was devastated.
- c) The concert was cancelled; the weather was bad: I was devastated.

- a) The kids experienced a feeling they had never felt before: excitement.
- b) The kids experienced a feeling they had never felt before; excitement.
- c) The kids experienced: a feeling they had never felt before; excitement.

USING COLONS & SEMICOLONS

Rewrite each of the following using colons and/or semicolons.

e.g. You need to bring clothes, sunscreen, snacks and a book on camp.

You need to bring the following on camp: clothes, sunscreen, snacks and a book.

1. My father would always say that I should not trust politicians or lawyers.

2. Gerald doesn't like pizza, as he is allergic to cheese.

3. School was closed because the road was covered in ice.

4. It takes courage, patience, determination and loyalty to be a teacher.

5. My sister loves to cook. However, she also loves to bake.

6. He was faced with the problem of not being good enough.

7. The school is well known for its academic standards and great teaching.

8. I had passed my driving test and so my life had changed forever.

9. The beautiful sunset is the only thing I can see.

10. I could always hear her voice telling me not to give up.

11. As the rain was pouring outside, we couldn't hear the phone.

12. I need to go to bed early, but my sister likes to stay up late.