

Semicolons and Colons - Unit 8

<h3>Semicolons ;</h3> <p>A semicolon is stronger than a comma but weaker than a period. It is used to link two independent clauses with similar ideas, or it can be used to avoid confusion when there are already too many commas in a sentence.</p>	<h3>Colons :</h3> <p>A colon indicates a stop and then introduces something. In the words of Jeff Anderson, “The colon acts like a drum roll, announcing what will follow.”</p>
<h4>WHEN TO USE A SEMICOLON</h4> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Use a semicolon to join two independent clauses, creating a compound sentence.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students with jobs lose focus on their school work; their grades begin to slip and their futures dim.2. Use a semicolon and a transition (conjunctive adverb) to join two independent clauses, creating a compound sentence.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students with jobs lose focus on their school work; <u>hence</u>, their grades begin to slip and their futures dim.3. Use a semicolon to separate items in a series that contain commas.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• My cousin has lived in Detroit, Michigan; Cleveland, Ohio; and Las Vegas, Nevada.• Bobby hired Joe, the carpenter; Larry, the mason; and Steve, the electrician.• On this plan, I can eat whole-grain breads, pastas, and tortilla chips; citrus fruits, green vegetables, and some ruffage; and lean meats, such as turkey or fish.	<h4>WHEN TO USE A COLON</h4> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Use a colon after a stop to introduce a list.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our guide told us to bring the following items: a lantern, a sleeping bag, and a tent.2. Use a colon after a stop to introduce a quotation.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The President's attitude was cold and detached: "We must not let emotion interfere with our mission."3. Use a colon after a stop to introduce another sentence or a summary.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It's obvious why you're tired: you're staying up too late.

DIRECTIONS: Insert semicolons or colons where needed in the following sentences.

1. I'd like to help you out unfortunately, I don't have the time.
2. The principal made the following announcement "School will be closed at 12:30."
3. Joe has worked in Austin, Texas, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Boise, Idaho.
4. I grabbed everything I would need a fishing pole, bait, and my water bottle.
5. The writer's job is to write the editor's job is to edit.
6. You failed the test for one reason you didn't study.