

Monday 6th July 2020

Learning Objectives:

To recognise and explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes can be used.

Steps for Success

- To identify when and why semi-colons, colons or dashes can be used.
- To write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes between independent clauses.
- To use a colon to introduce a list.
- To use semi-colons within lists.
- To use a dash to mark out extra information in a sentence.

Punctuation Marks

There are some tricky little punctuation marks to learn about:

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The **semi-colon**, which can be used to link two closely related sentences and separate items in a list.

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The **colon**, which can be used to introduce a list (amongst other things).

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A **dash**, which can be used to connect or separate phrases and sentences.

Punctuation Marks – Semi Colons

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Semi-colons can be used to link two **closely related** independent clauses instead of using a conjunction.

The girls were excited about the party; a real magician would be there.

The semi-colon here provides a smooth transition between the two sentences, hinting to the reader that there is more information to come about the party.

Have a go at using a semi-colon in this way on your whiteboard.

A full stop here would be too final and a comma would not be grammatically correct, as a comma should not be used to link two independent sentences.



Punctuation Marks - Semi-Colons



The semi-colon keeps order in the sentence, separating the information about each item in the list.

Penny surveyed her shopping: potatoes, for the chips; beef, for the burgers; tomatoes, for the tomato ketchup and bananas, for the banoffee pie.

The semi-colon here keeps order in the sentence, separating the information about each item in the list.



Have a go at using a semi-colon in this way on your whiteboard.



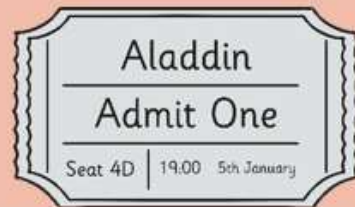
Punctuation Marks - Colons

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Colons can be used to expand a sentence by linking independent clauses. They can introduce an idea that explains, expands or balances the information before the colon.

The pantomime was a huge success: over two thousand people had booked tickets to see it.

The fact that over two thousand people had booked tickets for the pantomime explains why it was a success.



Have a go at using a colon in this way on your whiteboard.



Punctuation Marks - Colons



Colons can also be used to introduce a list:

Rachael realised that she disliked cabbage for a number of reasons: it looked like brains, tasted disgusting and it never filled her up.

The colon here introduces Rachael's list of reasons for disliking cabbage.



Have a go at using a colon in this way on your whiteboard.



Punctuation Marks - Dashes

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Dashes can also be used to separate or connect two independent clauses, but they are often used in less formal writing.

Lilies are very pretty flowers – they smell disgusting though.

The dash here creates a disjunction in the flow of writing and introduces an unexpected surprise. Dashes can be used in this way to create shock or humour too.



Have a go at using a dash in this way on your whiteboard.



Punctuation Marks - Dashes

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Two dashes can mark out extra information in sentences, similar to brackets.

Tilly – though I can't quite believe how - jumped straight over the car and ran off into the woods.

The dashes here add extra information to the sentence like brackets would, but they draw more attention to what is written, making it feel more integrated into the main sentence.



Have a go at using a dash in this way on your whiteboard.





Activity

Have a go at using semi-colons, colons and dashes on your activity sheet.

* Support Sheet

*** Main/Challenge Sheet





Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

I can identify where to use semi-colons, colons and dashes.
I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.



1. Insert the semi-colon in the correct place in these sentences.

- a) The woodland creatures each lived in their own cosy homes: badger, in his set rabbit, in her burrow and fox, in his den.
- b) High in the trees, the birds twittered the wood was alive with beautiful music.
- c) Leaves fluttered softly to the ground a soft red carpet emerged.
- d) Describe when you would use a semi-colon in your writing.

2. Insert the colons in the correct place in these sentences.

- a) At the seaside, the waves crashed noisily against the shore the storm had whipped up a frenzy of sea-foam.
- b) Don't forget to do your chores the washing, ironing and dusting.
- c) Sadie's project was doomed to fail she had run out of time to finish.
- d) Describe when you would use a colon in your writing.



Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

I can identify where to use semi-colons, colons and dashes.
I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.



3. Insert the dashes in the correct place in these sentences.

- a) Monkeys are my favourite animal I think they're really funny.
- b) Tom Francis who was usually a really cool guy fell flat on his face in ballet class.
- c) Stacey ran as fast as she could she had to catch that bus!
- d) Describe when you would use a dash in your writing.



Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

I can identify where to use semi-colons, colons and dashes.
I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.



1. Insert a semi-colon in the correct place in the given sentences then write your own sentence

- a) The woodland creatures each lived in their own cosy homes: badger, in his set rabbit, in her burrow and fox, in his den.

My sentence:

- b) High in the trees, the birds twittered the wood was alive with beautiful music.

My sentence:

- c) Describe when you would use a semi-colon in your writing.



Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

I can identify where to use semi-colons, colons and dashes.
I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.



3. Insert a dash in the correct place in the given sentences then write your own sentence using a dash in the same way.

a) Monkeys are my favourite animal I think they're really funny.

My sentence:

b) Tom Francis who was a usually a really cool guy fell flat on his face in
ballet class.

My sentence:

c) Describe when you would use a dash in your writing.



1. Insert the semi-colon in the correct place in these sentences.
 - a) The woodland creatures each had their own cosy homes: badger, in his set; rabbit, in her burrow; and fox, in his den.
 - b) High in the trees, the birds twittered; the wood was alive with beautiful music.
 - c) Leaves fluttered softly to the ground; a soft red carpet emerged.
 - d) *To link two closely related independent clauses instead of using a conjunction. To separate items in a list, especially when the list contains commas.*
2. Insert the colons in the correct place in these sentences.
 - a) At the seaside, the waves crashed noisily against the shore; the storm had whipped up a frenzy of sea-foam.
 - b) Don't forget to do your chores; the washing, ironing and dusting.
 - c) Sadie's project was doomed to fail; she had run out of time to finish.
 - d) *To separate two independent clauses where the second clause explains, expands on or balances the information in the first. To introduce a list.*
3. Insert the dashes in the correct place in these sentences.
 - a) Monkeys are my favourite animal - I think they're really funny.
 - b) Tom Francis - who was a usually a really cool guy - fell flat on his face in ballet class.
 - c) Stacey ran as fast as she could - he had to catch that bus!
 - d) *To separate or connect two independent clauses - less formal. To mark out extra information in a sentence (a bit like brackets).*



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