

Language Conventions: Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

Australian Curriculum

This lesson plan could be used to support the teaching and learning of the following content descriptions from the Australian Curriculum:

Y6: Language, Text Structure and Organisation










Explain how texts across the curriculum are typically organised into characteristic stages and phases depending on purposes, recognising how authors often adapt text structures and language features (AC9E6LA03)

Understand that cohesion can be created by the intentional use of repetition, and the use of word associations (AC9E6LA04)

Y6: Literacy, Creating Texts

Plan, create, edit and publish written and multimodal texts whose purposes may be imaginative, informative and persuasive, using paragraphs, a variety of complex sentences, expanded verb groups, tense, topic-specific and vivid vocabulary, punctuation, spelling and visual features (AC9E6LY06)

<p>Aim: I can recognise and explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes can be used and use them in my own writing.</p>	<p>Prior Learning: It will be helpful if children understand how to use commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity (Y5 aim).</p>	<p>Resources: Lesson Pack Whiteboards and Pens</p>
<p>Success Criteria: I can identify when and why semi-colons, colons or dashes can be used. I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes between independent clauses. I can use a colon to introduce a list. I can use semi-colons within lists. I can use a dash to mark out extra information in a sentence.</p>	<p>Key/New Words: Semi-colon, colon, dash, clause, independent clause</p>	<p>Preparation: Which Punctuation Activity Sheet - one per group Differentiated Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes Activity Sheet - one per child Semi-Colon Punctuation Poster - one per pair Colon Punctuation Poster - one per pair Dash Punctuation Poster - one per pair Differentiated Finding Examples in Texts Activity Sheet - one per child Mini Test and Application - one per child</p>

	<p>Introductory Activity: Punctuation Marks Read the definitions of semi-colons, colons and dashes and give children the chance to practise using the different punctuation marks after reading each slide. Children then work in groups to decide what the missing punctuation mark could be in the given sentences on the Which Punctuation Activity Sheet. Share and discuss reasons.</p>			
	<p>Independent Focused Activity: Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes Children complete the differentiated Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes Activity Sheet. <i>Look for children who are able to identify where a semi-colon, colon or dash could be used and why.</i></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>  Children insert missing punctuation and explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes are used. </td> <td>  Children insert missing punctuation, write their own sentences and explain how ; : and - are used. </td> </tr> </table>		 Children insert missing punctuation and explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes are used.	 Children insert missing punctuation, write their own sentences and explain how ; : and - are used.
 Children insert missing punctuation and explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes are used.	 Children insert missing punctuation, write their own sentences and explain how ; : and - are used.			
	<p>Review Activity: Punctuation Posters Children work in pairs to create their own punctuation posters to explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes can be used and provide examples of different sentences using them. <i>Look for children who can explain and exemplify the different ways in which the punctuation can be used, e.g. semi-colons in lists and between independent clauses.</i></p>			

SPaG: Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes



Consolidation Activity

Children complete the differentiated

Look for children who can confidently use the punctuation marks correctly in their own sentences.



Children highlight semi-colons, colons and dashes in the extracts and say why they have been used. Then they insert the missing punctuation marks in some extracts.



Children highlight semi-colons, colons and dashes in the extracts and say why they have been used. Then they write their own example sentences using the punctuation mark in a similar way.



Children find and write out their own extracts from texts which contain semi-colons, colons and dashes. They say why they have been used and write their own examples using the punctuation marks in a similar way.



Assessment: Using

Children complete the

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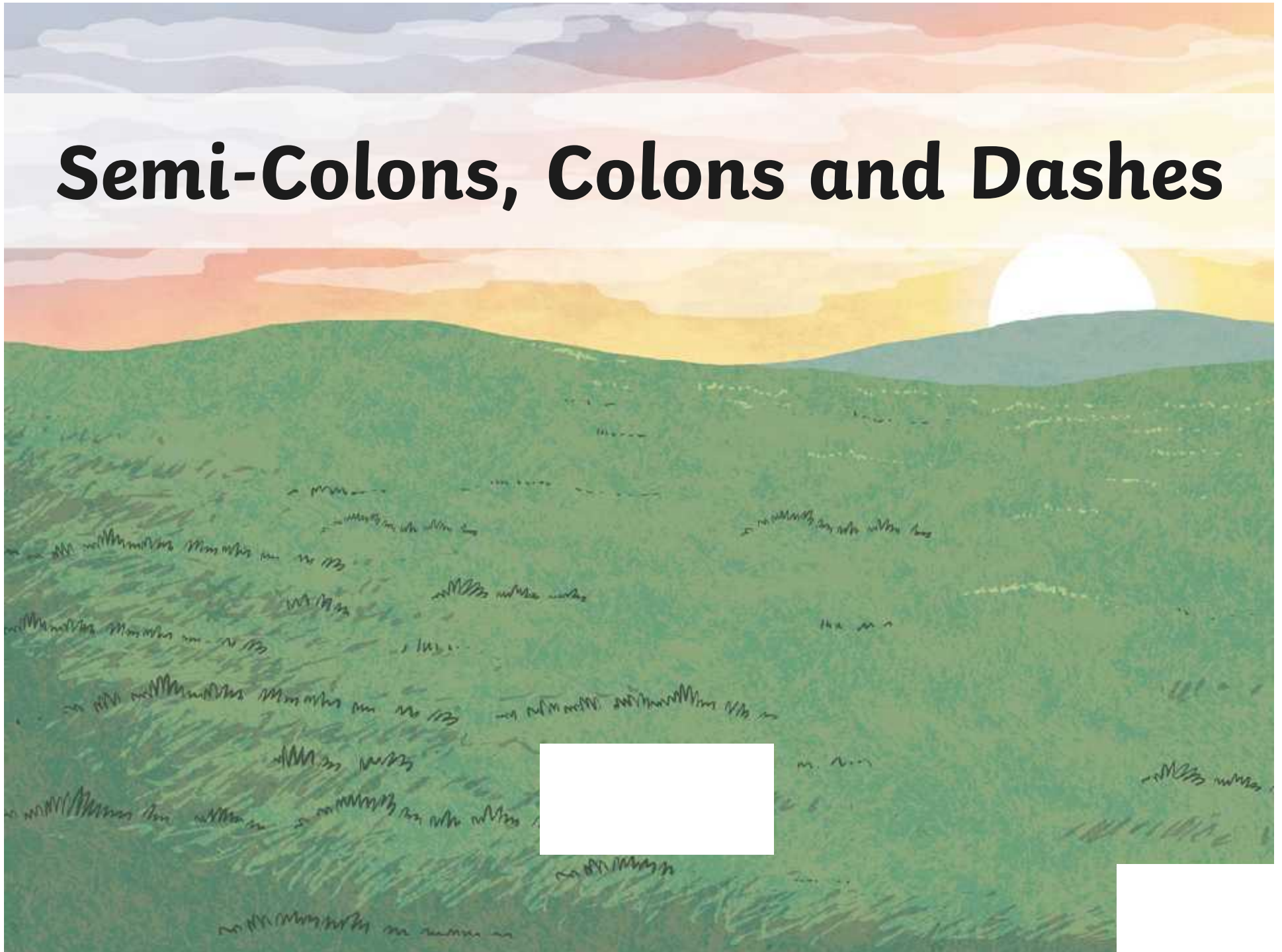
to show they can use ; : and - in their own writing.



Language Conventions

Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes



Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

Introductory Activity

Independent Focused Activity

Review Activity

Consolidation Activity

Assessment

Aim

- I can recognise and explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes can be used and use them in my own writing.

Success Criteria

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



Introductory Activity

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.



:

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



-

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

Punctuation Marks – Semi Colons

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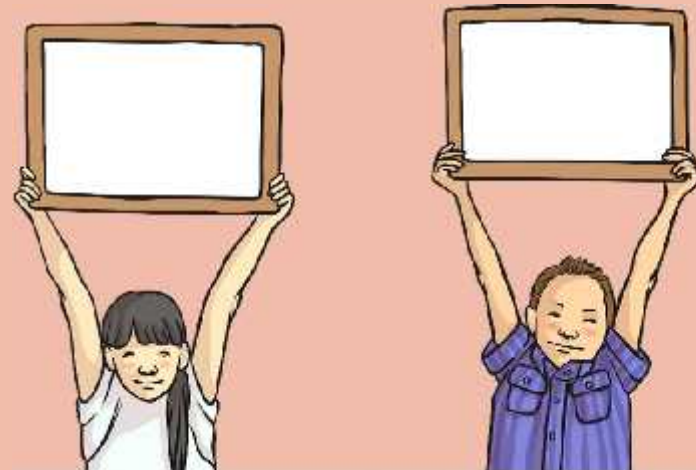
Semi-colons can be used to link two **closely related** independent clauses instead of using a conjunction.

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



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

-

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

-

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.





Independent Focused Activity

Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes



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

Can you see where and why the different punctuation marks could be used?

Using S

I can identify who I can write my story to

1. Insert the semi-colon in the text

a) The woodland creature, my rabbit, in her burrow and I

b) High in the trees, the birds

c) Leaves fluttered softly to the

d) Describe what you would do

2. Insert the colon in the correct

a) At the weekend, the sun was so

b) Don't forget to tell your class

c) Sarah's project was chosen

d) Describe what you would do

Using S

I can identify who I can write my story to

1. Open the dashes in the correct

a) Thinkings every fortnight

b) Tom Francis who was about

c) Steady ran as fast as she could

d) Describe what you would do

Using S

I can identify who I can write my story to

1. Draw a semi-colon in the correct

a) The woodland creature, my rabbit, in her burrow and I

b) High in the trees, the birds

c) Describe what you would do

Using S

I can identify who I can write my story to

1. Insert a colon in the correct place

a) At the weekend, the sun was so

b) Don't forget to tell your class

c) Describe what you would do

Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

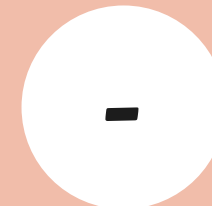
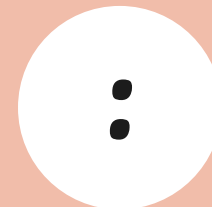
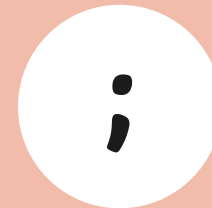
I can identify where to use semi-colons, colons and dashes. I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.

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

a) Montage are my favourite animals. I think they're really funny.

b) Tom Francis who was a really cool guy. He had an ice-cream in his hand.

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





Review Activity

Punctuation Posters



Remember. . .

;

Semi-colons can be used to link independent clauses and separate items in a list.

:

Colons can be used to link independent clauses and introduce a list.

-

Dashes can be used to link independent clauses and mark out extra information in sentences.

Punctuation Posters



Can you make your own posters to explain the different ways that these tricky punctuation marks can be used? Remember to give examples too!

Semi-Colon Punctuation Poster ;

I can explain when to use a semi-colon and write sentences using semi-colons between independent clauses and within lists.

Can you remember how to use a semi-colon in your writing? Design a poster to explain the different ways a semi-colon could be used. Don't forget to include examples too!

Colon Punctuation Poster :

I can explain when to use a colon, write sentences using colons between independent clauses and use colons to introduce lists.

Can you remember how to use a colon in your writing? Design a poster to explain the different ways a colon could be used. Don't forget to include examples too!

Dash Punctuation Poster -

I can explain when to use a dash, write sentences using dashes between independent clauses and mark out extra information.

Can you remember how to use a dash in your writing? Design a poster to explain the different ways a dash could be used. Don't forget to include examples too!



Consolidation Activity

Finding Examples in Texts



Being able to use semi-colons, colons and dashes correctly can help writers to create their own style and add subtle layers of meaning to their work.

Can you find examples of semi-colons, colons and dashes on the pages of some of the best-known children's authors?

Can you explain why you think they have chosen to use the punctuation marks in the way they have?

Finding Examples in Texts

Read the text below and find:

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100. The text: _____

Can you identify when and why semi-colons can be used? Can you give an example of when to use a semi-colon?

Can you find examples of semi-colons, colons and dashes in one of your favourite reading books? Copy out the examples and then write your own sentence using the punctuation mark.

1. Semi-colons: _____
2. Colons: _____
3. Dashes: _____

Can you give an example of a dash used between independent clauses?

Can you give an example of this?

Can you give an example of a dash used to mark out some information?

Can you give an example of this?



Assessment

Using Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes



Complete the mini-test and application activity to show how well you can understand and use semi-colons, colons and dashes.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes Mini Test

1) A semi-colon between independent clauses.

2) A semi-colon within a list.

3) A colon between independent clauses.

4) A colon to introduce a list.

5) A dash between independent clauses.

6) A dash to match and extra information.

Application

I can write my own sentences using

1. Write out the following passage of text inserting where you think they could go.

1) A brand new theme park is set to open in this weekend. Flamingo Towers is regarded as the crown of Australian theme parks in the USA.

2) Flamingo Towers will contain no less than 1000 guests, including the following major: the speed moped race track in zone 100; a 100m shaft and Wilkins, a dizzying spiral.

Application

I can write my own sentences using

1) Families with younger children will be a mainstay of the art festival. There's a Patrick the character rule on every one of its six

2) If you're feeling in need of a bit of relaxation, there's a small resort around the hotel grounds by a dedicated team of professional gardeners.

3) Poshish? Flamingo Towers has a restaurant with a range of scrumptious dishes that all look great. Tickets are in the house, you won't.

Application Activity

I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.

Challenge: Can you add an extra, short paragraph of your own describing another aspect of the park – such as a virtual gaming system – and use semi-colons, colons or dashes?

Aim

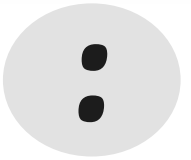
- I can recognise and explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes can be used and use them in my own writing.

Success Criteria

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



Colon Punctuation Poster



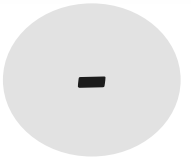
I can explain when to use a colon, write sentences using colons between independent clauses and use colons to introduce lists.



Can you remember how to use a colon in your writing? Design a poster to explain the different ways a colon could be used. Don't forget to include examples too!

A large rectangular area defined by a dashed border, intended for students to design their own poster about colon punctuation.

Dash Punctuation Poster



I can explain when to use a dash, write sentences using dashes between independent clauses and mark out extra information.



Can you remember how to use a dash in your writing? Design a poster to explain the different ways a dash could be used. Don't forget to include examples too!



Finding Examples in Texts

I can identify when and why semi-colons, colons or dashes can be used.



Read the short extracts from some classic children's literature. Can you find examples of semi-colons, colons and dashes? Highlight them and then explain why you think the author used them.

1. The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling

Then there was a howl – an untigerish howl – from Shere Khan.

a) Punctuation Mark _____

b) Why I think it was used:

2. The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter

A white cat was staring at some goldfish - she sat very, very still, but now and then the tip of her tail twitched as if it were alive. Peter thought it best to go away without speaking to her - he had heard about cats from his cousin, little Benjamin Bunny.

a) Punctuation Mark _____

b) Why I think it was used:

3. Peter Pan by J.M Barrie

As he had leapt at the window Nana had closed it quickly, too late to catch him, but his shadow had not had time to get out; slam went the window and snapped it off.

a) Punctuation Mark _____

b) Why I think it was used:



Finding Examples in Texts

I can identify when and why semi-colons, colons or dashes can be used.



4. Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

Alice opened the door and found that it led into a small passage, not much larger than a rat-hole: she knelt down and looked along the passage into the loveliest garden you ever saw.

a) Punctuation Mark _____

b) Why I think it was used:

5. Now insert a semi-colon, colon or dash to complete these sentences from The Railway Children by E. Nesbit.

a) These three lucky children always had everything they needed pretty clothes, good fires, a lovely nursery with heaps of toys and a Mother Goose wall-paper.

b) Peter had a birthday his tenth.

c) He had often acted as veterinary surgeon to the wooden rocking-horse once he had saved its life when all human aid was despaired of.

d) They lighted the fire and put the kettle on, and they arranged the crockery for breakfast they could not find all the right things, but a glass ash-tray made an excellent salt-cellar, and a newish baking-tin seemed as if it would do to put bread on, if they had any.



Finding Examples in Texts

I can identify when and why semi-colons, colons or dashes can be used.



Read these short extracts from classic children's literature. Can you highlight examples of semi-colons, colons and dashes? Say why you think they were used and have a go at using them in your writing.

1. The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling

Then there was a howl – an untigerish howl – from Shere Khan.

a) Punctuation Mark _____

b) Why I think it was used:

c) My example of using the punctuation in this way:

2. The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter

A white cat was staring at some goldfish - she sat very, very still, but now and then the tip of her tail twitched as if it were alive. Peter thought it best to go away without speaking to her - he had heard about cats from his cousin, little Benjamin Bunny.

a) Punctuation Mark _____

b) Why I think it was used:

c) My example of using the punctuation in this way:



Finding Examples in Texts

I can identify when and why semi-colons, colons or dashes can be used.



3. Peter Pan by J.M Barrie

As he had leapt at the window Nana had closed it quickly, too late to catch him, but his shadow had not had time to get out; slam went the window and snapped it off.

a) Punctuation Mark _____

b) Why I think it was used:

c) My example of using the punctuation in this way:

4. Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

Alice opened the door and found that it led into a small passage, not much larger than a rat-hole: she knelt down and looked along the passage into the loveliest garden you ever saw.

a) Punctuation Mark _____

b) Why I think it was used:

c) My example of using the punctuation in this way:



Finding Examples in Texts

I can identify when and why semi-colons can be used.
I can use semi-colons in my own writing.



Can you find examples of semi-colons, colons and dashes in some of your favourite reading books? Copy out the examples and then write your own sentence using the punctuation mark in a similar way.

a) Find an example of a semi-colon used between independent clauses:

b) My own example of this:

c) Find an example of a semi-colon used within a list:

d) My own example of this:



Finding Examples in Texts

I can identify when and why semi-colons can be used.
I can use semi-colons in my own writing.



Can you find examples of semi-colons, colons and dashes in some of your favourite reading books? Copy out the examples and then write your own sentence using the punctuation mark in a similar way.

a) Find an example of a colon used between independent clauses:

b) My own example of this:

c) Find an example of a colon used to introduce a list:

d) My own example of this:



Finding Examples in Texts

I can identify when and why semi-colons can be used.
I can use semi-colons in my own writing.



Can you find examples of semi-colons, colons and dashes in some of your favourite reading books? Copy out the examples and then write your own sentence using the punctuation mark in a similar way.

1. Semi-colons:

2. Colons:

3. Dashes:

a) Find an example of a dash used between independent clauses:

b) My own example of this:

c) Find an example of a dash used to mark out extra information:

d) My own example of this:



1. The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling

a) Punctuation Mark dashes

b) Why I think it was used: *Marks out the extra information similar to brackets but more integral to the sentence.*



2. The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter

a) Punctuation Mark dashes

b) Why I think it was used: *Separates two independent clauses.*

3. Peter Pan by J.M Barrie

a) Punctuation Mark semi-colon

b) Why I think it was used: *Provides a link between the two clauses showing that they are closely related.*

4. Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

a) Punctuation Mark colon

b) Why I think it was used: *It links two independent sentences explaining what is down the rat-hole.*



5. Now insert a semi-colon, colon or dash to complete these sentences from The Railway Children by E. Nesbit.

a) These three lucky children always had everything they needed: pretty clothes, good fires, a lovely nursery with heaps of toys and a Mother Goose wall-paper.

b) Peter had a birthday - his tenth.

c) He had often acted as veterinary surgeon to the wooden rocking-horse; once he had saved its life when all human aid was despaired of.

d) They lighted the fire and put the kettle on, and they arranged the crockery for breakfast; they could not find all the right things, but a glass ash-tray made an excellent salt-cellar, and a newish baking-tin seemed as if it would do to put bread on, if they had any.

Semi-Colon Punctuation Poster



I can explain when to use a semi-colon and write sentences using semi-colons between independent clauses and within lists.



Can you remember how to use a semi-colon in your writing? Design a poster to explain the different ways a semi-colon could be used. Don't forget to include examples too!

A large dashed rectangular box intended for students to design their poster.



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.



2. Insert a colon in the correct place in the given sentences then write your own sentence

a) At the seaside, the waves crashed noisily against the shore the storm had whipped up a frenzy of sea-foam.

My sentence:

b) Don't forget to do your chores the washing, ironing and dusting.

My sentence:

c) 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 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 - she 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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Which Punctuation Mark

I can identify when to use a semi-colon, colon or dash.



Amber really disliked custard	over three hundred pounds was raised towards the new barn.
The open day on the farm was a huge success	Robert Pattinson was her favourite actor.
Sarah enjoyed the film premiere	lifts, balances, and jumps are usually featured during a routine.
Trekking through the forest was fun but tiring	she said it tasted like sweaty socks.
Cheerleading is a type of dance which involves specific movements	the hikers were exhausted.

Challenge: Can you write your own sentences using a semi-colon, colon and dash to separate independent clauses?

Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

Suggested uses. Allow for variation where appropriate.

Amber really disliked custard

The open day on the farm was a huge success

Sarah enjoyed the film premiere

Trekking through the forest was fun but tiring

Cheerleading is a type of dance which involves specific movements

- she said it tasted like sweaty socks.

: over three hundred pounds was raised towards the new barn.

; Robert Pattinson was her favourite actor.

; the hikers were exhausted.

: lifts, balances, and jumps are usually featured during a routine.

Application Activity

I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.



1. Write out the following passage of text inserting the missing **semi-colons**, **colons** or **dashes** where you think they could go.

a) A brand new theme park is set to open its gates to the public for the first time this weekend. Flamingo Towers is regarded by some experts at least as the crème-de-la-creme of Australian theme parks even rivalling some of those iconic parks in the USA.

b) Flamingo Towers will contain no less than fifty unique ride experiences for guests, including the following major thrill rides Barbara, a white knuckle high-speed moped race back in time 100, a hundred feet vertical drop down a disused mineshaft and Villain, a dizzying spinning catapult through space.

Application Activity

I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.



c) Families with younger children will be equally satisfied with Flamingo Towers' state-of-the-art Toddler Turret a Patrick Pig themed castle with a different Patrick Pig character ride on every one of its six levels.

d) If you're feeling in need of a bit of relaxation after a busy morning riding, you might want to take a stroll around the vast gardens surrounding the park all are maintained by a dedicated team of professional gardeners Green Thumb Landscapes.

e) Peckish? Flamingo Towers has a restaurant to satisfy every taste bud all offer a vast range of scrumptious dishes that all the family will enjoy. So don't delay book your tickets online now. You won't regret it!

Application Activity

I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes.



Challenge: Can you add an extra, short paragraph of your own describing another aspect of the park – such as a virtual queuing system - and use semi-colons, colons or dashes?

¹ Suggested Answers. Allow for variations where appropriate as long as the use of the punctuation is accurate.

- a) *A brand new theme park is set to open its gates to the public for the first time this weekend. Flamingo Towers is regarded - by some experts at least - as the crème-de-la-creme of British theme parks; it is even set to rival some of those iconic parks in the USA.*
- b) *Flamingo Towers will contain no less than fifty unique ride experiences for guests, including the following major thrill rides: Barbara, a white knuckle high-speed moped race back in time; 100, a hundred feet vertical drop down a disused mine-shaft; and Villain, a dizzying spinning catapult through space.*
- c) *Families with younger children will be equally satisfied with Flamingo Towers' state-of-the-art Toddler Turret; a Patrick Pig themed castle with a different Patrick Pig character ride on every one of its six levels.*
- d) *If you're feeling in need of a bit of relaxation after a busy morning riding, you might want to take a stroll around the vast gardens surrounding the park; all are maintained by a dedicated team of professional gardeners - Green Thumb Landscapes.*
- e) *Peckish? Flamingo Towers has a restaurant to satisfy every taste-bud; all offer a vast range of scrumptious dishes that all the family will enjoy.*
- So don't delay - book your tickets online now. You won't regret it!*

Semi-Colons, Colons

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

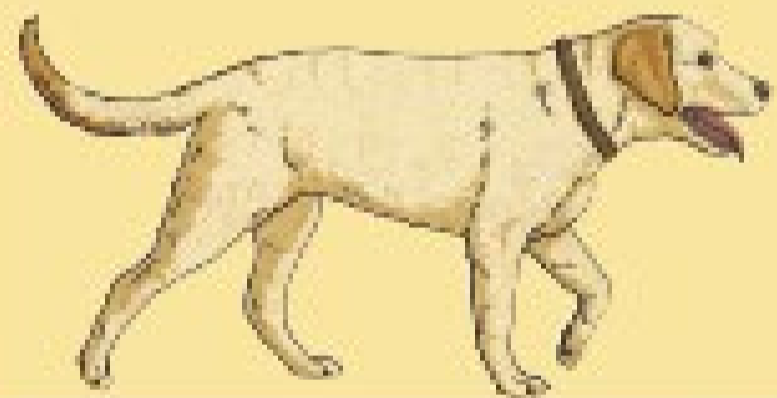
Sasha was excited to meet the queen; she hoped she'd be wearing her crown.



Semi-colons are used in lists, contracts, and more.

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

You often see dogs panting in the summer: it helps them to cool down.



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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.

Sarah is a clever girl – she's often rather mean though.



Two dashes are used in informal writing to connect two independent clauses.

Colons and Dashes

Semi-colons can also be used to separate items in a list, especially when the list contains commas.

I'd love to visit the following places: Paris, in France; Rome, in Italy; and Geneva, in Switzerland.



Colons can also be used to introduce a list.

There are several hiding places in our classroom: behind the door, under the rug, in the cupboard and in the bin.



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

Our new car – although it is second hand – is in really good condition.



Semi-Colons, Colons

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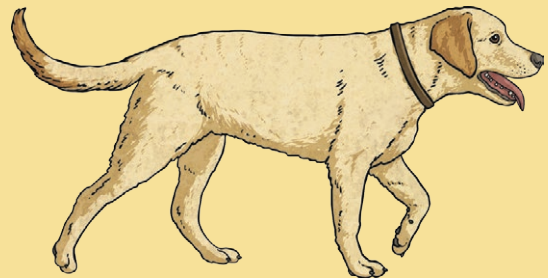
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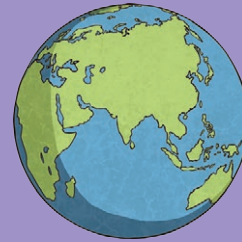


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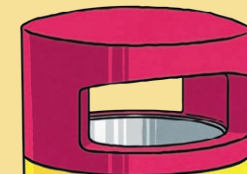
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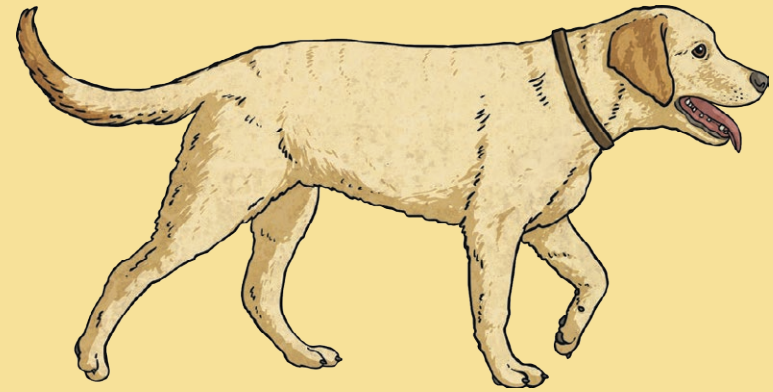


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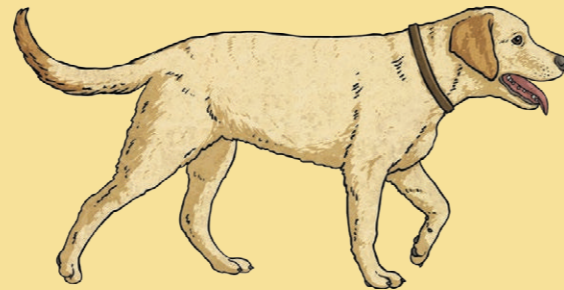
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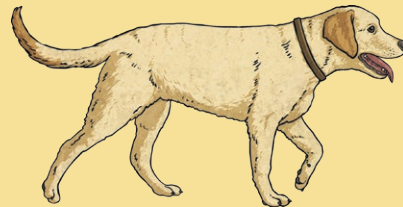
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Name:

Date:

<input type="text"/>
6 total marks

Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes Mini Test

a) A semi-colon between independent clauses.

b) A semi-colon within a list.

c) A colon between independent clauses.

d) A colon to introduce a list.

e) A dash between independent clauses.

f) A dash to mark out extra information.

<input type="text"/>
6 marks

<input type="text"/>
total for



Language Conventions | Semi-Colons, Colons and Dashes

I can recognise and explain how semi-colons, colons and dashes can be used and use them in my own writing.		
I can identify when and why semi-colons, colons or dashes can be used.		
I can write my own sentences using semi-colons, colons and dashes between independent clauses.		
I can use a colon to introduce a list.		
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