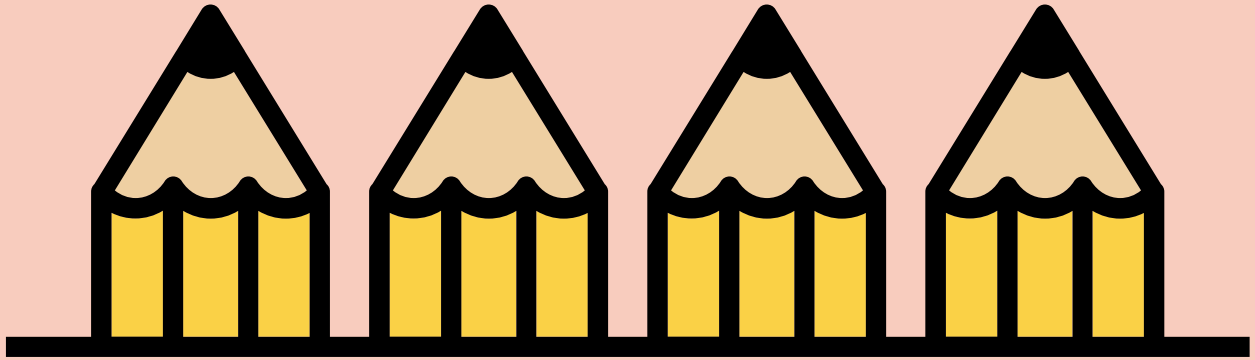
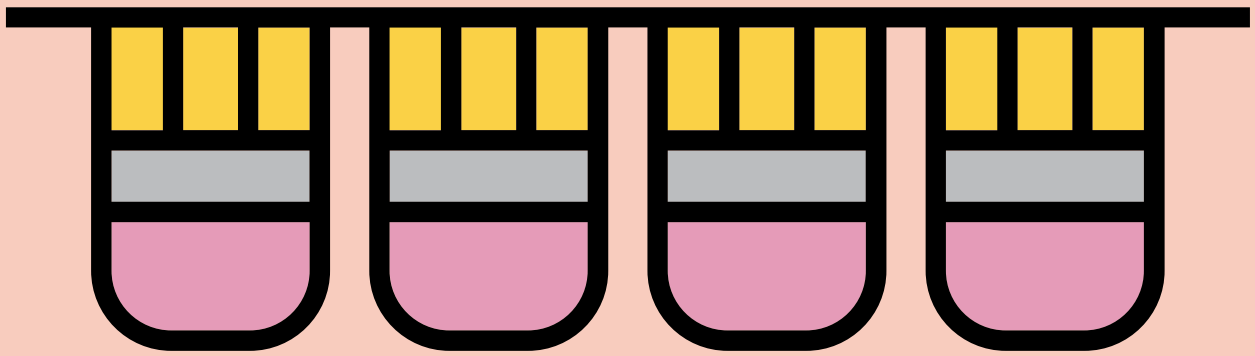




Grade 7 Grammar Sample



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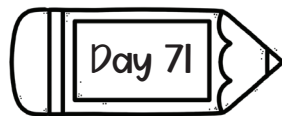


Colons

A **colon** is a type of punctuation mark that is used to introduce a series of items, introduce a quotation, or emphasize information.

A **colon** looks like two dots on top of each other. 

The most important rule is that the words that follow a colon MUST be *directly connected* to the words before the colon.



I can correctly use a colon in a sentence.

Colons can be used to introduce a series of items.

Following an **independent clause** that introduces the topic of the list, a **colon** would be added followed by the items in the list.

- **Jeremiah requested songs at the dance:** "Dance Monkey," "Live It Up," and "Let's Get Loud."
- **I only like this seafood:** tuna, salmon, and lobster.





Daily Practice



Add a colon before the series of items.

- Aaliyah's farm has several animals donkeys, cows, and horses.
- I owe my gratitude to my teachers Mr. Willis, Mrs. Black, and Mrs. Martin.
- Terry orders the same toppings on his pizza cheese, ham, and olives.
- My mom's gifts were the best a new dress, new shoes, and a camera.



I can correctly use a colon in a sentence.

Colons can be used to introduce a quotation.

Following an **independent clause** that introduces the quote, add a colon followed by the direct quote.

- **Nelson Mandela made the most profound statement:** "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
- **My mom, who is a nurse, says the same thing every day:** "Doctors may save lives, but I save the doctors."





Daily Practice



Add a colon before the quotation. Highlight the independent clause and underline the direct quotation.

- Billy Joel's classic lyric is my daily motto "We never knew we could want more than that out of life."
- Every time I ask for something, my father replies the same way "Show me the money!"
- Mr. Pittman starts every class the same "Start fresh to see the opportunity in each day."
- Jeremy ended his presentation with a strong quote "Words may inspire, but action creates change."



I can correctly use a colon in a sentence.

Colons can be used to *emphasize* information.

A colon can separate **two independent clauses** when the second clause is *directly related* or when the second clause is *emphasizing* the first.

- **Good Will Hunting is not just a movie: It can truly change your life.**
- **Mrs. Matthews brought cookies to class: She wanted to reward our good behavior.**





Daily Practice



Add a colon between the independent clauses. Highlight the first clause and draw a line under the second clause.

- The principal had secret talents He could play the drums and sing really well.
- Madonna is one of the most iconic artists of the 20th century She is called the Queen of Pop.
- Montreal has a population close to two million It is the second-largest area in Canada.
- Penguins are flightless birds They can't fly, but they can swim well.



I can correctly use a colon in a sentence.

Colons introduce lists or quotes or emphasize an **independent clause** with another directly related independent clause.

A **colon** will always have an **independent clause** first, where the **colon** will replace the period before adding the additional information. After the **colon**, a capital letter is only needed if there is a **proper noun** or a **second independent clause**.

- **Maggie wants to visit her favorite city: Paris.**
- **Mrs. Alvarez stopped class to make an announcement: The project is due tomorrow.**





Daily Practice



Add a colon where it belongs in each of the following sentences.

- Sylvia tried to keep me grounded after getting the first interview "Don't count your chickens before they hatch."
- Mrs. Griffin had the best qualities in a therapist patience, kindness, and understanding.
- Swimming is one of the best forms of exercise It works your whole body.
- I've got my eye on three cars an Audi, a Charger, and a BMW.



Colons Assessment



Add a colon to each sentence where needed.

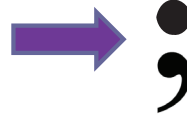
- My dentist says the same thing at every visit "You only have to brush the teeth you want to keep."
- A Tesla is more than a fuel-efficient car It protects the environment and is easier to care for than other cars.
- Allison requested that we all bring different dishes appetizers, main courses, and desserts.
- During the poll, 90% of the people chose the same person Robert.
- There's only one way to be nominated complete all tasks on time.



Semicolons

A **semicolon** is a type of punctuation mark that is used to join two **independent clauses**, replace commas in a **serial list**, and with **conjunctive adverbs**.

A **semicolon** looks like a comma under a dot.



I can correctly use a semicolon in a sentence.

Semicolons can be used between two **independent clauses** that are closely related and share a logical connection.

- Kyle ordered dessert after dinner; he wasn't worried about calories.
- I had to ride the bus to school; my mom had an early meeting.





Daily Practice



Add a semicolon between the two independent clauses.

- Reagan wants to go to the museum it's free for students today.
- The band had a horrible sound I tried to enjoy the event anyway.
- Terry doesn't want to go inside he is afraid of the dog.
- The team practiced all day on Saturday they still lost the game.



I can correctly use a semicolon in a sentence.

Semicolons can be used between two independent clauses instead of using a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).

- Cecilia asked for a new paper, but there weren't any extra copies.
- Cecilia asked for a new paper; there weren't any extra copies.





Daily Practice



Rewrite the sentences without a coordinating conjunction.

- The line at Starbucks was really long, so I was late to school.
- The pen's cap was missing, but the ink didn't dry up.
- Jesse likes all music genres, but he prefers jazz.
- The desk was just the right size, and it fit in my room perfectly.



I can correctly use a semicolon in a sentence.

Semicolons can be used in a **serial list** where the items already have commas. The semicolon separates the items.

- The author visited **Tokyo, Japan; Paris, France; and London, England.**
- The highest enrollment in Florida colleges are **UCF, Orlando; FIU, Miami; and UF, Gainesville.**





Daily Practice



Rewrite the sentences with semicolons.

- The honors classes are taught by Mr. Samuel, ELA, Mrs. Rogers, math, Mrs. Drake, science, and Mr. Baladi, social studies.

- Our dinner choices are steak, potatoes, and broccoli, chicken, rice, and green beans, or pizza and breadsticks.

- My father introduced me to John, a lawyer, Toby, an accountant, and Magdalena, a CEO.



I can correctly use a semicolon in a sentence.

Semicolons can be used between two independent clauses when using a conjunctive adverb.

Common conjunctive adverbs include:

moreover, however, therefore, likewise, nevertheless, indeed.

- I'm not fond of that perfume on me; however, the scent smells wonderful on my sister.
- My teacher never warns the class about quizzes; therefore, I review my notes each night.





Daily Practice



Add a semicolon to the sentences below.

- Energy drinks are known to be bad for your health moreover, they don't taste good.
- Rain was forecasted during the game nevertheless, the school chose not to cancel it.
- Alexa wanted to go for a walk also, she needed to pick up milk at Publix.
- Alligators are found in many waterways in Florida likewise, they can be dangerous to small pets that get close to the water.



Semicolons Assessment



Add a semicolon to each sentence where needed.

- You might be strong enough to lift the box however, you could still hurt yourself.
- The computer was a touchscreen I still used the mouse.
- The award winners are Lewis, Carol, Smith, Joseph, Blackman, Amelia, and Haynes, Daniel.
- Bryce prefers to study at the library it was closed for remodeling.
- We were running late therefore, we skipped dinner before leaving.



7th Grade



Name: _____ Date: _____

(1) Each year, more and more children are affected by a growing epidemic: obesity. (2)

Some feel that the answer is to participate in sports, however, this may not be the best solution.

(3) Youth sports has its own set of issues.

(4) There is a phrase many coaches like to use to motivate players, “No pain, no gain.”

(5) This is clearly not accurate.

(6) One of the biggest problems with youth sports is the risk of serious injuries, these include concussions, broken bones, and torn ligaments. (7) A better answer to the rise in obesity is much simpler. A well-balanced diet.

1. Correct sentence #1.

- a. Each year, more and more children are affected by a growing epidemic, obesity.
- b. Each year, more and more children are affected by a growing epidemic. Obesity.
- c. Correct as is

2. Correct sentence #2.

- a. Some feel that the answer is to participate in sports however, this may not be the best solution.
- b. Some feel that the answer is to participate in sports; however, this may not be the best solution.
- c. Correct as is

3. Correct sentence #4.

- a. There is a phrase many coaches like to use to motivate players: “No pain, no gain.”
- b. There is a phrase many coaches like to use to motivate players. “No pain; no gain.”
- c. Correct as is

4. Correct sentence #6.

- a. One of the biggest problems with youth sports is the risk of serious injuries: these include concussions, broken bones, and torn ligaments.
- b. One of the biggest problems with youth sports is the risk of serious injuries; these include concussions, broken bones, and torn ligaments.
- c. Correct as is

5. Correct sentence #7.

- a. A better answer to the rise in obesity is much simpler, a well-balanced diet.
- b. A better answer to the rise in obesity is much simpler: a well-balanced diet.
- c. Correct as is



Lisa Collum is a CEO, author, educator, and mother of four with more than 20 years of experience in education. She is the founder of Top Score Writing and Coastal Middle & High School. After seeing students struggle with writing, Lisa developed a simple, structured approach that helped her students achieve a 100% pass rate on the state writing assessment two years in a row.

Today, Top Score Writing is used by schools nationwide to help teachers simplify writing instruction and build confident, successful writers. Lisa also travels across the country providing professional development and sharing practical strategies with teachers, administrators, and district leaders.