

Semi colon revision

Semi-colons are used in the same way as a comma; they are used to signal a long pause in a sentence. A capital letter is not needed after a semi-colon. Students targeting the higher levels should be able to use semi-colons confidently.

Semi-colons are used:

- 1. to separate two sentences that are related
to group words (clauses) together in a list**

For example:

1. The expedition may be on or off; it all depends on the weather.
2. Four objects lay on the desk: a large book; a spiral-bound notepad; a glass vase containing flowers; and a silver propelling pencil.

Semi colon practice

Rewrite the sentences below using semicolons. Remember that semi colons replace joining words, commas, capital letters and full stops.

1. George ran into the shed because it was raining.
2. Sammy likes hamburgers but I like fish and chips.
3. The car screeched to a halt. The fox managed to escape.
4. Losing money is careless but stealing it is criminal.
5. Julius Caesar famously said: "I came, I saw, I conquered."

Use semi-colons to correctly punctuate the following sentences:

1. I bought apples bananas pears and plums at the supermarket.
2. In order to ride a horse, you need the following equipment: a helmet, a saddle, stirrups and a halter with reins.
3. My lessons at school today are: Maths Science English History and P.E.

Make a list of items and use semicolons to separate them.