

Punctuation (semicolons, colons, parentheses, dash, brackets, underlining [italics], and hyphens) worksheet

Directions: Insert the proper punctuation marks in the following sections; each section is titled with the punctuation to be used. If the sentence is correct, put a **C** next to the number in the margin.

Semicolons

1. The last day of summer vacation finally arrived consequently we prepared for the first day of a new year.
2. She was willing to run the fifty-mile race after she soaked in her Jacuzzi for two days.
3. She enjoys ice-skating. She learned how to roller-blade when she was a child.
4. Paula did well in two subjects hence she will have a high average at the end of the year.
5. My mother is a basketball fan thus she has not missed a single home game in the last three years.
6. Today we do not use such comparisons “most unkindest cut of all” Elizabethan plays however contain many double negatives.
7. In the seventeenth century, the era of such distinguished prose writers as Sir Thomas Browne, John Donne, and Jeremy Taylor, the balanced compound sentence using commas and semicolons reached a high degree of perfection and popularity but the tendency of many writers today is to use a fast-moving style with shorter sentences and fewer commas and semicolons.
8. The three top seniors in this year’s class have the following four-year averages: Marvin Chan, 94.8 Ruth Ann Cummins, 93.6 and Joan Dorf, 92.8.

Colons

1. The applications for employment at the manufacturing plant asked the following questions How old are you? Have you ever worked in manufacturing plant before? What other jobs have you held?
2. Don’t miss the following items that will be on sale during the first week in June ice skates, skis, snowshoes, parkas, ski pants, mittens, etc.
3. When she went to camp, she had to take blankets, sheets, toilet articles, a flashlight, and poison ivy lotion.
4. Our school board provides the students with free books, book covers, a notebook cover, notebook paper, yellow pads, and one pencil every six weeks.
5. Here are the four main uses of the comma (1) to prevent misreading; (2) to separate items in a series; (3) to set off expressions that interrupt the sentence; and (4) to set off introductory phrases and clauses.
6. The graduate was nervous about leaving for college she felt safe, secure, and happy in her hometown.
7. The reasons for the success of the play are obvious it has fine actors, witty dialogue, and tuneful music.