



# Punctuation: **Colons and Semi-Colons**

Colons are useful pieces of punctuation which come after a sentence to introduce a quotation, list or conclusion. e.g.

**Things we need to buy: sausages, cola and ice-cream.**

**The president addressed the audience: "Thank you all for coming."**

**There was only one thing left for the boys to do: slam the door on their way out.**

Semi-colons are used to join together two sentences which are related, but distinct. e.g.

**I love coffee; I'm not fully awake until I've had my morning latte.**

Can you rewrite these sentences, including either a semi-colon or a colon?

1. We must let them know we're going to be late they will be waiting for us outside the cinema.

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2. Chocolate the best food for when you're feeling low.

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3. The whole class had chipped in and her present was brilliant concert tickets, a box of chocolates and a massive bunch of flowers.

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4. The car sped around the corner, brakes screeching the woman jumped at the noise.

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5. Stormzy ran onto the stage and greeted the audience "Hello Blackpool!"

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Now, write one sentence with a semi-colon and one sentence with a colon.



# Punctuation: **Colons and Semi-Colons - Answers**

Can you rewrite these sentences, including either a semi-colon or a colon?

1. We must let them know we're going to be late they will be waiting for us outside the cinema.  
**We must let them know we're going to be late; they will be waiting for us outside the cinema.**
2. Chocolate the best food for when you're feeling low.  
**Chocolate: the best food for when you're feeling low.**
3. The whole class had chipped in and her present was brilliant concert tickets, a box of chocolates and a massive bunch of flowers.  
**The whole class had chipped in and her present was brilliant: concert tickets, a box of chocolates and a massive bunch of flowers.**
4. The car sped around the corner, brakes screeching the woman jumped at the noise.  
**The car sped around the corner, brakes screeching; the woman jumped at the noise.**
5. Stormzy ran onto the stage and greeted the audience "Hello Blackpool!"  
**Stormzy ran onto the stage and greeted the audience: "Hello Blackpool!"**