

Mastering Colons and Semicolons with Max and Kit

Learning objective: To accurately use colons to introduce a list and semicolons to join two independent but related clauses.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of punctuation to complete the tasks. Remember: a colon introduces information, while a semicolon acts as a bridge between two complete sentences.

Max the monkey and Kit the fox are busy organising their library. Max loves to list his favourite books, and Kit loves to link related ideas together using precise punctuation.

Word bank: colon · semicolon · independent clause · list · pause · punctuation

1. Max has a list of items he needs for his maths puzzle. Rewrite this sentence adding a colon in the correct place: 'Max needs three things for his lesson a ruler a protractor and a calculator.' (2 marks)

2. Kit wants to join two related sentences about computing. Use a semicolon to combine these into one sentence: 'The computer code was finished. Kit felt very proud of his work.' (2 marks)

3. Explain why a semicolon is used in the sentence: 'Max enjoys solving complex equations; he finds them very relaxing.' (2 marks)

4. Identify which punctuation mark is missing in this sentence: 'Kit packed his bag for the trip to the forest, a map, a compass, and a snack.' Explain your choice. (2 marks)

5. Write your own sentence that uses a colon to introduce a list of items you might find in a school pencil case. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey using a ruler to draw a straight line, and Kit the fox sitting at a desk with a laptop, showing them working together on their punctuation project.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about a library adventure using at least one colon to introduce a list of books and one semicolon to join two independent clauses.