

Name _____ Date _____

Colons and Semicolons

FOCUS

- **Colons (:)** are used to introduce lists, to separate the minutes and hours of a precise time, and at the end of a business letter's salutation.
- **Semicolons (;)** are used to join independent clauses in a sentence and to help separate clauses joined by some adverbs like *however*, *therefore*, and *yet*. Use a semicolon when conjunctions like *and* or *but* are not used.

Practice

A colon or semicolon is missing from each sentence below. Circle the punctuation mark that correctly completes each sentence.

1. Rain fell on the campsite for hours ____ however, Kyra stayed dry inside her tent. (: ;)
2. Before the party, Jessie has to complete the following tasks ____ vacuuming, dusting, shopping, and decorating. (: ;)
3. The zoo opens at 9 ____ 30, so we should leave soon. (: ;)
4. These are the days I have band practice after school ____ Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. (: ;)
5. Tell Mrs. Knodt that Victor is going to be late ____ he missed the bus again. (: ;)