

Colons and Semicolons



COLONS:

DEFINE THE NOUN THAT COMES
BEFORE THE COLON

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**I need to go to the store to buy the
following (things): milk, bread, coffee.**

COLONS

DEFINE THE NOUN THAT COMES
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Elephant: Big grey animal with floppy ears and long trunk.

COLONS

DEFINE THE NOUN PHRASE THAT
COMES BEFORE THE COLON

I have lost the most important thing:
hope.

SEMICOLONS:

CONNECT TWO INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

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My daughter wants to play the piano;
my son has a ukulele.

SEMICOLONS:

CONNECT TWO INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

**I have all my grades done; however,
there were 14 students who did not
complete their final project.**

SEMICOLONS:

CONNECT TWO INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

Copying work without citing it is plagiarism; students do this constantly, especially when working

SEMICOLONS:

**USE IN PLACE OF COMMAS FOR
COMPLICATED SERIES**

**She needs to buy milk for breakfast;
rice, cheese, and tortillas for lunch; and
hamburgers and buns for dinner.**

SEMICOLONS: USE IN PLACE OF
COMMAS FOR COMPLICATED SERIES

COLONS: DEFINE THE NOUN THAT
COMES BEFORE THE COLON

I have a lot to do today: write lesson plans for the six classes I teach; email all parents about the next unit; plan winter homecoming; post everything on planbook; and make 111,000 copies.