

Semi-colons

Semi-colons can be used between two main clauses instead of a coordinating conjunction:

The wind bashed against the rocks, causing a mist; the vessel was unaware of the dangers that lay ahead.

Semi-colons can be used in complex list:

The sea was buzzed with its dormant strength; the waves were oozed on to the beach and the pelagic smells wafted from the steaming seaweed.

Colons

A colon can be used to illustrate or expand:

Our serenity was ruptured: the alarm rang through the town.

The sea was hungry: it had laid dormant for long enough.

The night's sky was dark: darker than it had ever been.

Colons

A colon can be used with bullet points to demarcate a list:

The boy carried:

- a torch,
- a whistle,
- a snack,
- a lantern,
- a compass.