

Read and Analyze

Using Colons and Semicolons

Unit 7: Lesson 78

8th gr
Lang Arts

Lesson 5
Days

- Marilyn Hamilton is an amazing woman, she turned a tragedy into an opportunity.
- Some people have that gift: they find a way to make the most of a bad situation.
- They learn from their own misfortune; they use what they learn to benefit others.

In which sentence are two independent clauses separated incorrectly with only a comma and no conjunction? _____

What punctuation marks are used to separate the independent clauses in the other two sentences? _____

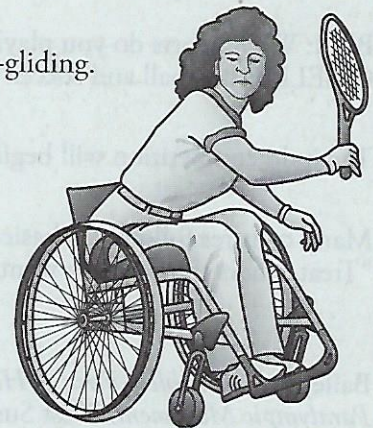
A **semicolon (;)** can be used instead of a comma and conjunction to separate the independent clauses in a **compound sentence**. A **colon (:)** can be used to separate two independent clauses when the second explains the first. It can also be used to introduce a list at the end of a sentence, to separate parts of references in a bibliography, and to separate hours and minutes in an expression of time.

See Handbook Sections 8, 13

Practice

Write a colon or a semicolon to separate the clauses in each sentence.

- Marilyn Hamilton was a very active young woman she enjoyed tennis and hang-gliding.
- In 1978 an accident changed her life she crashed her glider into a mountain.
- Hamilton became paraplegic she lost the use of her legs.
- She confronted another problem her wheelchair was too bulky.
- A standard wheelchair weighed about fifty pounds she wanted a lighter one.
- She sought the aid of two friends both were weekend inventors.
- The two men designed gliders Hamilton asked them to build a wheelchair out of hang-gliding material.
- The new wheelchair was a vast improvement it weighed only twenty-six pounds.
- It looked sleek and sporty it had a compact frame and an angled back.
- Hamilton could return to sports she began competing in tournaments.
- She became a national tennis champion she also joined the U.S. Disabled Ski Team.
- Hamilton and her two friends went into business they began making wheelchairs.
- Her partners focused on design and manufacturing Hamilton focused on marketing.
- In response to customers' requests, she made another innovation she offered wheelchairs in bright colors.
- Soon the sporty-looking chairs were not just for sports they were for everyday use.



Hamilton used a sports wheelchair to win the 1983 U.S. Women's Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships.

Apply

Draw a line from each item on the left to an item on the right to make a simple or compound sentence. Then rewrite each pair as one sentence. Use a semicolon or a colon to separate independent clauses. Use a colon to introduce a list.

The Paralympic Games are held every two years

she won a silver medal in skiing

Marilyn Hamilton competed in the 1984 Winter Paralympic Games

cycling, judo, swimming, and wheelchair basketball

The Summer Paralympic Games include the following sports

they take place in the same city as the Olympic Games

16. _____

17. _____

18. _____

Reinforce

The colon has many uses in writing. Think about how the colon is used in these examples. Then draw a line from each example to the rule it matches. (19–23)

BEN: What sports do you play?

Use a colon to separate hours and minutes in an expression of time.

GISELLE: Baseball and soccer.

The judo competition will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Use a colon after the speaker's name in a play.

Many cultures follow this basic rule:

“Treat others the way you want them to treat you.”

Use a colon to separate the place of publication and the name of publisher in a book reference in a bibliography.

Bailey, Steve. *Athlete First: A History of the Paralympic Movement*. West Sussex, Eng.: John Wiley & Sons, 2008.

Use a colon to introduce a list or series at the end of a sentence.

I enjoy four sports: football, soccer, basketball, and baseball.

Use a colon to introduce a quotation.

On another sheet of paper, write an example of your own to match each rule.