MHS ENGLISH DEPT **COLONS AND SEMI-COLONS** S2 HOMEWORK

**A colon introduces...**

* **An explanation/expansion**

e.g.My favourite animal is a liger: a tiger crossed with a lion.

* **A quotation**

e.g. Our teacher’s motto is: ‘Work hard, play later.’

* **A list**

e.g. He had three hobbies: football, tennis and running.

**A semi-colon**...

* **links equal statements**

e.g. Orla is my sister; Connor is my brother.

* **separates items in a list when they are phrases**

e.g. For the trip you need: a tent, preferably lightweight; a first aid kit; cooking utensils and firelighters and waterproof clothing.

**COPY the above into your jotter.**

**TASK ONE: Put a colon in the correct place in each of the following sentences *and* write down whether it introduces an explanation, quotation or list.**

1. Dogs were more popular in our survey 80% of people believed dogs to be better companions than cats.
2. The exam was too difficult there were questions on topics we had not studied.
3. His speech was inspirational “Believe you can and you will.”
4. The school offers a lot of extra-curricular activities netball, football, basketball, swimming and hockey.
5. The competition was close Euan won by two hundredths of a second. **(10)**

**TASK TWO: Write out the following sentences, putting the semi colons in the correct place. Write down whether the semi colon is being used for a list or to join sentences.**

1. Reading is an essential skill but too few people read for pleasure these days.
2. The 1980s were tough times the country was run differently then.
3. I entered the room it was eerily silent.
4. The shop took over £3000 the busiest day of the year so far.
5. Dev reported the break-in he had seen the culprits. **(10)**

**TASK THREE: Make two columns in your jotter ‘punctuated correctly’ and ‘not punctuated correctly’. Read the following sentences, decide if they are punctuated correctly and put the sentence number in the right column.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | In geography we will be covering five topics**;** climate change, deserts, Japan and rivers. |
| 2 | The total cost was £200**:** £100 for flights and £100 for the hotel.  |
| 3 | The storm hit the island with a vengeance**;** strong winds battered**:** rain hammered**:** thunder roared and lightning flashed. |
| 4 | Breakfast is the most important meal of the day; it helps to stabilise blood sugar levels. |
| 5 | In the play Romeo and Juliet, the ending is revealed in the Prologue; ‘death-marked love’. |
| 6 | I have a large family**:** three sisters**;** one step sister**;** two brothers**;** two step-brothers and sixteen cousins.  |
| 7 | My mum has protanopia; a form of colour blindness. |
| 8 | I went for a walk in the rain; it was refreshing. |
| 9 | The only quotation I remember is from ‘Star Wars’: ‘May the Force be with you.’ |
| 10 | Bea did four things to prepare for the test: read her notes; made flashcards; created a quiz and made a mindmap. |

**(10)**

**TOTAL 30**