

## Using Punctuation to Mark Boundaries

1. Which sentences correctly use punctuation to mark boundaries?

A. The koala — which lives in Australia — is a marsupial.

B. At school, they teach us about finances: looking after your money is important.

C. The builders would soon be leaving; they had almost finished construction.

VF

4. Rewrite the paragraph below using semicolons, colons and dashes to mark the boundaries.

The pirate who had a peg leg was the captain of the ship. His mind was focused on one thing treasure! He and his crew sailed the seven seas. Their ship was called 'The Mermaid'.

A

2. Name the punctuation needed to mark the boundaries in each of the sentences below.

A. The television presenter looked flustered they had made a mistake.

B. The models were used for the game they were elaborately painted.

C. I always keep my diary locked just in case!

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5. Lottie has written a sentence using a colon.

	I play computer games
	every evening: there's
	a new game coming
	out tonight.

Has she used the correct punctuation? Explain how you know.

R

3. Rewrite the sentences below, joining the independent clauses with a colon, semicolon or dash.

A. The picture was flattering. The lighting was very good.

B. Tim slid down the banister. It was very dangerous.

C. My sister's grumpy. I nicked her favourite top.

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6. Write three different sentences using the word bank to help you.

zoo	enclosure
animals	feeding
tropical	monkeys

Each sentence should use a different piece of punctuation (colon, semicolon or dashes) to mark boundaries.

A

## Using Punctuation to Mark Boundaries

1. A and B are correct. C is incorrect because a colon should be used to join the clauses as the second clause provides an explanation of the first.
2. A. colon or dash; B. semicolon; C. dash
3. A. The picture was flattering: the lighting was very good.  
B. Tim slid down the banister; it was very dangerous.  
C. My sister's grumpy — I nicked her favourite top.
4. The pirate — who had a peg leg — was the captain of the ship. His mind was focused on one thing: treasure! He and his crew sailed the seven seas; their ship was called 'The Mermaid'.
5. Lottie has not used the correct punctuation. The second clause is closely related to the first clause, but is not an explanation. She should have used a semicolon.
6. Various answers, for example:  
We went to the zoo: we were desperate to see some monkeys.  
The animals were in their enclosures; the monkeys had lots of equipment to swing on.  
We — my brother and I — went into the tropical centre.