

Name _____ **Semicolons**



Semicolons

A semicolon can perform three different functions in a sentence:

- A. Combine two closely related independent clauses of equal emphasis which are not joined by a conjunction;
- B. Separate independent clauses that are joined by a conjunctive adverb; or
- C. Separate items in a list when commas alone would be confusing.

DIRECTIONS: On the line, write the letter of the function that the semicolon is serving in each sentence.

1. _____ The taxi is here; I really have to go.
2. _____ I am going out today; however, I will be in this evening.
3. _____ It's been a rough day: I was late for work; I spilled my coffee; and my boss yelled at me in a meeting.
4. _____ I'm so proud of you; you've worked so hard.
5. _____ Hank isn't very good at sports; consequently, he doesn't play any.
6. _____ I started a new book last night; the one I just finished reading was really short.
7. _____ I have a lot to do; hence, I got up early today.

