

# Lesson 62

## Semicolons

- A **semicolon** is a stronger break than a comma, but not as complete a stop as a period or colon. The semicolon is used to separate independent clauses that are similar, but not joined by conjunctions.

EXAMPLE: The apartment was vacant for months; no one would rent it.

- When two independent clauses are joined by a linking adverb such as accordingly, thus, however, or therefore, a semicolon is used at the end of the first clause.

EXAMPLE: The daredevil survived the crash; however, he was never able to walk again.

- Semicolons are used to separate items in a series if the items contain internal punctuation.

EXAMPLE: The presenters included Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General; Thomas King, author; and Lennie Gallant, singer.

Place semicolons in the correct places in the sentences below.

1. The tornado spun across the prairie her barn was swept away.
2. The conference ends on Sunday thus, we can return to work for Monday.
3. Ahmed told me not to stay in a hotel he suggested, instead, that I stay with his parents.
4. We ordered five cartons of fax paper six unlined, yellow pads and assorted highlighters in shades of yellow, blue, and orange.
5. We had hoped to complete the journey on foot however, the bad weather prevented us from completing the project.
6. In the Blue Jays game there were three hits, two runs, and one error in the first inning five hits, one run, and no errors in the second inning no hits, no runs, and no errors in the third.
7. He was soaked his whole body was shivering.
8. I asked everyone at the party to avoid discussions about politics I was nervous about a fight breaking out.
9. The company showed a great profit accordingly, the dividends will be passed on to shareholders.
10. Aunt Jessica looked all over for the right birthday present she finally found what she wanted.
11. They were lost in the storm the car was stuck in a deep drift.
12. Technology is changing therefore we must adapt.
13. You are very talented however, talent is sometimes not enough.
14. Conferences were held in London, Ontario, on May 6, 1998 in Red Deer, Alberta, on June 8, 1999 and in Moncton, New Brunswick, on July 12, 2000.
15. It was a hectic week we were extremely busy.