**Semi-colons (;)**

Semi-colons are used to separate items in a list, where the items are lengthy descriptions:

*Whilst walking to school, Jeremy saw: a hedgehog rolled up into a ball; two squirrels having an acorn fight; a cat chasing a dog; a one-legged pigeon.*

Semi-colons are also used to join clauses which are closely related:

*Ferdinand Magellan was the first man to sail round the world; he discovered the Straits of Magellan in 1520.*

*The impossible we do at once; miracles take a little longer.*

**Activity**

Copy the sentences and add semicolons.

1. It was spring the daffodils had come overnight.
2. I stood quietly on the platform soon the train would arrive.
3. Judy had not done her homework she would be in trouble.
4. The woods were quiet only the birds sang.
5. Kelly wants to play outside Kim wants to play inside.
6. You didn’t try your very best your marks went down this term.
7. All students must: arrive on time complete all tasks follow the

rules and be their best.

1. My mother planted roses the roses were all red.
2. You should talk to Jade otherwise she’ll think you’re mad at her.
3. I love going to the gym I also like riding my bike.
4. The sun rose the alarm clock went off

**ANSWERS**

**Semi-colons (;)**

**Activity**

Copy the sentences and add semicolons.

1. It was spring; the daffodils had come overnight.
2. I stood quietly on the platform; soon the train would arrive.
3. Judy had not done her homework; she would be in trouble.
4. The woods were quiet; only the birds sang.
5. Kelly wants to play outside; Kim wants to play inside.
6. You didn’t try your very best; your marks went down this term.
7. All students must: arrive on time; complete all tasks; follow the

rules and be their best.

1. My mother planted roses; the roses were all red.
2. You should talk to Jade; otherwise she’ll think you’re mad at her.
3. I love going to the gym; I also like riding my bike.
4. The sun rose; the alarm clock went off