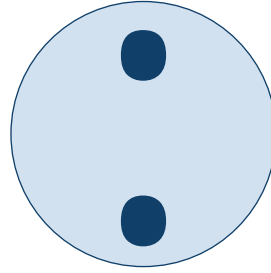




SPaG Starters Colons

We use colons to:

- link two bold, connected statements;
- introduce direct speech;
- introduce an explanation or example;
- introduce a question;
- introduce a list.



Colons are always followed by lower-case letters, unless the word is a proper noun or 'I'.

Look at the following sentences. Is the colon correct here? Give them a tick or a cross and write an explanation of your decision.

1. The classroom had everything: books, desks, chairs, a whiteboard, a bookcase and many posters.

2. Shay wanted to go to bed: he was exhausted from the journey.

3. The teacher looked at the class and began her speech: "You need to understand the rules..."

4. Connor had only one question in his mind: could he get away with not doing his homework?

5. Love hurts: hate kills.



SPaG Starters **Colons** Answers

1. The classroom had everything: books, desks, chairs, a whiteboard, a bookcase and many posters.

Introducing a list.

2. Shay wanted to go to bed: he was exhausted from the journey.

Introducing an explanation.

3. The teacher looked at the class and began her speech: "You need to understand the rules..."

Introducing direct speech.

4. Connor had only one question in his mind: could he get away with not doing his homework?

Introducing a question.

5. Love hurts: hate kills.

Linking two bold, connected statements.