

LO: To understand when semicolons are used.

Individual items on a list are usually separated by a comma.

E.g.. I bought oranges, apples, bananas and pears.

However, if the items in a list are more complicated, then a semicolon should be used.

E.g.. I bought one bag of oranges; five apples; two bananas; a kilo of pears.

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Task 1:

Re write these lists. Decide whether the items should be separated by commas or semicolons.

1. My favourite colours are red blue and green.
2. Mary Kate Freddie and Max work well together.
3. To play chess you need a chequered board special playing pieces and lots of patience.
4. Slowly he counted, "One two three four five six."
5. The bunch of flowers contained five white roses three tulips a few twigs of ivy and lots of daffodils.
6. Julie kept all her special things in a box under the bed. It contained a diamond ring some westlife concert tickets three private letters and some pretty sea shells.
7. Each table in class has pencils rulers rubbers and a sharpener.
8. Mrs Cadman's favourite p.c. games are solitaire freecell and hearts.
9. Betty had a dog called Bruce a cat called Fluffy a rabbit called Bobby and a budgie called Chip.
10. I like to eat bacon egg chips and beans.

Task 2

Think of some lists of your own which would use semi colons to separate the items.

