Semicolons and Colons

**Semicolons:**
A semicolon combines two independent clause that are so closely related they should be a single sentence. The two independent clauses can also be combined with a semicolon and a conjunctive adverb.

Conjunctive adverbs include: also, finally, furthermore, however, instead, moreover, otherwise, therefore.

Examples:  
- We went to the park; it was fun.  
- We went to the park; however, it was not fun.

Semicolons also separate items in a complicated series that contain other punctuation, such as commas.

Examples:  
The international dinner featured an assortment of cheeses from Wisconsin, Italy, and Denmark; specialties from Brazil, Greece, and Morocco; and wines from Australia, France, and South Africa.

**COLONS:**
Colons are used at the end of a complete sentence to introduce a series or a list. A colon can be used at the end of a sentence when what follows the colon explains, paraphrases, restates, or expands on the sentence before the colon; or when introducing a long or direct quotation.

Examples:  
1. The assignment asked the following questions:  
   - Who is the audience?  
   - What is the purpose of the paper?  
   - Why should the reader care about the issue?  
2. For this class you need three things: the textbook, a flash drive, and a notebook.  
3. The unsuspecting burglar didn’t notice who was standing behind him: a smiling police officer.

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