

EXERCISE 34-2 The Semicolon and the Comma

Edit the following sentences to correct errors in the use of the comma and the semicolon. If a sentence is correct, write “correct” after it. Example:

Love is blind; envy has its eyes wide open.

- a. Strong black coffee will not sober you up, the truth is that time is the only way to get alcohol out of your system.
- b. It is not surprising that our society is increasingly violent, after all, television desensitizes us to brutality at a very early age.
- c. There is often a fine line between right and wrong; good and bad; truth and deception.
- d. At Weight Watchers, we believe that being fat is not hereditary; it is a choice.
- e. Severe, unremitting pain is a ravaging force; especially when the patient tries to hide it from others.
1. Another delicious dish is the chef's special; a roasted duck rubbed with spices and stuffed with wild rice.
2. Martin Luther King Jr. had not intended to be a preacher, initially, he had planned to become a lawyer.
3. We all assumed that the thief had been Jean's boyfriend; even though we had seen him only from the back.
4. The Victorians avoided the subject of sex but were obsessed with death, our contemporaries are obsessed with sex but avoid thinking about death.
5. Some educators believe that African American history should be taught in separate courses, others prefer to see it integrated into survey courses.