

EXERCISE 35-1 The Colon, the Semicolon, and the Comma

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

Smiling confidently, the young man stated his major goal in life~~;~~ to be secretary of agriculture before he was thirty.

- a. Minds are like parachutes: They function only when open.
 - b. If we have come to fight, we are far too few, if we have come to die, we are far too many.
 - c. The travel package includes: a round-trip ticket to Athens, a cruise through the Cyclades, and all hotel accommodations.
 - d. The media like to portray my generation as lazy; although polls show that we work as hard as the twentysomethings before us.
 - e. Fran Lebowitz has this advice for parents, “Never allow your child to call you by your first name. He hasn’t known you long enough.”
1. Kay survived for one reason, the medics got to her in time.
 2. While traveling through France, Fiona visited: the Loire Valley, Chartres, the Louvre, and the McDonald’s stand at the foot of the Eiffel Tower.
 3. There are three types of leave; annual leave, used for vacations, sick leave, used for medical appointments and illness, and personal leave, used for a variety of personal reasons.
 4. Carl Sandburg once asked three important questions, “Who paid for my freedom? What was the price? And am I somehow beholden?”
 5. Robin sorts the crabs into three groups: males, females, and crabs about to molt.