

## Punctuation: Semi-Colon (;)

The semicolon signals more of a pause than the comma alone but not quite the full pause of a period. Use a semicolon to do the following:

1. Join two complete thoughts that are not already connected by a joining word such as *and*, *but*, *for*, or *so*.

The chemistry lab blew up; Professor Thomas was fired.  
I once stabbed myself with a pencil; a black mark has been under my skin ever since.

2. Join two complete thoughts that include a transitional word such as *however*, *otherwise*, *moreover*, *furthermore*, *therefore*, or *consequently*.

I cut and raked the grass; moreover, I weeded the lawn.  
Sally finished typing the paper; however, she forgot to bring it to class.

**Directions: Punctuate the following sentences.**

1. Something was obviously wrong with the meat loaf it was glowing in the dark.
2. Fred remembered to get the hamburger he forgot to buy the hamburger rolls.
3. I decided to go back to school I felt my brain was turning to slush.
4. She had a wig on it looked more like a hat than a wig.
5. Nat never heard the third-base coach screaming for him to stop he was out at home plate by ten feet.
6. I figured the ball game would cost me about five dollars however I didn't consider the high price of food and drinks.
7. Fred and Martha have a low-interest mortgage on their house otherwise they would move to another neighborhood.
8. Sharon didn't understand the teacher's point therefore she asked him to repeat it.
9. My parents moreover plan to go on the trip.
10. I believe however that they'll change their minds.
11. I arrived early to get a good seat however there were already a hundred people outside the door.