

With a partner, define the following terms...

Main clause

Subordinate clause

Mrs McKenna enjoyed the bungee jump

Newcastle United won the game

because the sky was a beautiful colour

as a result of the hard work of all of the children

even though it was a little bit nerveracking

Mr Saddington was pleased with his photograph

Miss Armstrong was delighted

as long as they work as a team

despite the unfortunate own goal

Emmaville could do very well at the basketball tournament

Main clause

Subordinate clause

Danny was very excited, he knew he was about to reach the summit!

Discuss with your partner whether you think this sentence is punctuated correctly or not.

INCORRECT

This sentence is punctuated incorrectly. You cannot punctuate two main clauses using a comma. This is known as a comma splice.

~~Danny was very excited. He knew he was about to reach the summit!~~

We have three options...

Danny was very excited. He knew he was about to reach the summit!

Danny was very excited because he knew he was about to reach the summit!

Danny was very excited; he knew he was about to reach the summit!



Semicolon

A semicolon can be used to punctuate two closely related, main clauses.

Correct...

The children were going to the seaside; they wanted fish and chips for their tea!

Incorrect... but why?

The children were going to the seaside; because they wanted fish and chips for their tea!

The children were going; to the seaside they wanted fish and chips for their tea.

The children were going to the seaside; Sam was great at playing Monopoly.

With a partner, finish these sentences with a related main clause.

Emily was excited to go on holiday;

Callan was exhausted;

George's heart was pounding quickly;

Perhaps you could include a semicolon in your work today...



Semicolon

Read through the work that you started yesterday. Underline any powerful words you have used.

How does this add to the feeling of tension?

What would happen if you swapped that word for a less powerful word?

Would this convey a different impression to the reader?

Let's continue where you left off yesterday.

