

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sharpen Your College Writing Punctuation

Foundational review of standard punctuation marks to ensure academic clarity and proper sentence boundaries in your university coursework.

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**1. Which sentence correctly uses an apostrophe to indicate possession for a plural noun ending in 's'?**

- A. The professors' lounge is located in the East Wing.
- B. The professor's lounge is located in the East Wing.
- C. The professors lounge's is located in the East Wing.
- D. The professorss lounge is located in the East Wing.

**2. The following sentence is punctuated correctly: 'Since the lab results were inconclusive; the researchers decided to repeat the experiment.'**

- A. True
- B. False

**3. Select the punctuation mark that best completes the sentence to introduce a formal list: 'Students must bring the following items to the field trip \_\_\_ a notebook, a camera, and a raincoat.'**

- A. ;
- B. ,
- C. :
- D. .

**4. In academic writing, which sentence uses quotation marks correctly for a short title?**

- A. The lecture focused on the essay titled 'Self-Reliance' by Ralph Waldo Emerson.
- B. The lecture focused on the essay titled "Self-Reliance" by Ralph Waldo Emerson.
- C. The lecture focused on the essay titled (Self-Reliance) by Ralph Waldo Emerson.
- D. The lecture focused on the essay titled :Self-Reliance: by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

**5. A comma is required after an introductory prepositional phrase that is four or more words long.**

- A. True
- B. False

**6. Choose the correct punctuation to join these two independent clauses: 'The library will be closed for renovations \_\_\_ however, the digital archives remain open.'**

- A. ,
- B. :
- C. ;
- D. -

**7. Which of these sentences is a 'comma splice' error?**

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- A. The deadline is tomorrow; I need to finish my draft.
- B. The deadline is tomorrow, and I need to finish my draft.
- C. The deadline is tomorrow, I need to finish my draft.
- D. Because the deadline is tomorrow, I need to finish my draft.

**8. Identify the missing punctuation in this citation: 'According to Dr. Aris \_\_\_\_ "The data supports the hypothesis."'**

- A. ;
- B. .
- C. ,
- D. -

**9. In the sentence 'The student's grades improved,' the apostrophe indicates that the grades belong to more than one student.**

- A. True
- B. False

**10. Which sentence correctly uses the Oxford (serial) comma?**

- A. Please bring your textbook, notebook and a pen.
- B. Please bring your textbook, notebook, and a pen.
- C. Please bring your textbook notebook, and a pen.
- D. Please bring your textbook notebook and a pen.