

Lesson Plan:

Comma, semicolon, colon

LEVEL	TIME	TOPIC
Intermediate (B1/B2)	60 minutes	Punctuation – comma, semicolon, colon

Focus Skills

Grammar, writing, reading comprehension

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify commas, semicolons, and colons in sentences.
- Understand the basic rules for using each punctuation mark.
- Use them correctly in their own writing.

Materials

- Whiteboard or projector
- Visual aids (sentence strips, punctuation posters)
- Student handout with examples and practice
- Worksheets
- Colored pens or highlighters
- Short reading passage (with punctuation intentionally removed for practice)

Warm-Up Activity (10 minutes)

Activity: "Fix the Funny Sentences"

Show sentences without punctuation and ask students what they mean.

Examples:

- Let's eat Grandma.
- Let's eat, Grandma.

Discuss how punctuation changes meaning.

Presentation (15 minutes)

Use simple charts and examples. Write examples on the board with color coding.

1. Commas (,)

- Use in lists: I like apples, bananas, and oranges.
- After introductions: After lunch, we went shopping.
- To separate extra information: My sister, Maria, is a teacher.

2. Semicolons (;)

- To join two sentences: I like pizza; he likes pasta.
- In lists with commas: I visited Paris, France; Rome, Italy; and Berlin, Germany.

3. Colons (:)

- Before a list: Bring these things: a pencil, notebook, and book.
- Before explanation: He has one problem: he forgot his homework.
- Before a quote: My teacher said: "Study hard."

Use gestures and visuals to show separation and connections.

Guided Practice (10-15 minutes)

Activity: Match the sentence to the punctuation.

- Give students strips of paper with parts of sentences and punctuation marks.
- Ask them to complete or fix the sentence.

Example:

- Sentence: I have three pets ___ a dog, a cat, and a rabbit.
- Correct punctuation: colon (:)

Independent Practice (10-15 minutes)

Worksheet includes:

- Fill in the blanks with the correct punctuation.
- Rewrite incorrect sentences.
- Write 3 new sentences: one with a comma, one with a semicolon, one with a colon.

Wrap-Up / Review (5 minutes)

Quick quiz or oral review:

- Ask students to say when we use each punctuation mark.
- Ask: "What do we use to separate items in a list?" (Comma!)

Homework (Optional)

- Find 5 sentences in a book or article that use commas, colons, or semicolons.
- Copy the sentences and label each punctuation mark.