## Commas and Semicolons

### Commas are used in lists,

We need eggs, milk, butter, and sugar to make the cookies.

#### to break up long sentences,

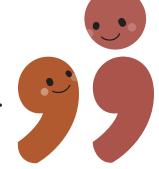
But, since I had forgotten to bring my lunch with me, and since my sister didn't have any money to lend me, I had to call my Dad and ask him to bring it to school.

#### after quotes,

"Let's take a break from homework and get a snack," my mom suggested.

#### and to break up quotes.

"Hey," she said, "That roller coaster wasn't so scary after all!"



# Semicolons are used in place of conjunctions

I exercise three days a week-because it helps me stay in shape.

I exercise three days a week; it helps me stay in shape.

We went to the movies but they were closed. We went to the movies; they were closed.

#### or to combine short sentences that are related to one another.

My aunt loves to cook; she makes dinner for us every week.

**Directions:** Figure out whether these sentences need commas or semicolons. Write them into each sentence.

- 1. "Remember, it's your turn to do the dishes," said my dad.
- 2. I like pepperoni, olives, and mushrooms on my pizza.
- **3.** I didn't need braces like my sister; I have very straight teeth.
- **4.** Our dog has short legs and a long body; he is part dachshund.
- **5.** We were told the test was canceled; we all cheered.

Your turn! Write an original sentence using a comma or a semicolon.

Student sentences will vary.