10.6 Colons: 30-minute Pack

about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

A Visit to Foxglove Wildlife Rescue Centre

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Our class had waited weeks for this trip: a whole afternoon at Foxglove Wildlife Rescue Centre. Mr Adeyemi, the centre's manager, met us at the gate and explained the golden rule at once: visitors must stay quiet near the animal pens. Inside the first shed we saw three patients recovering: a barn owl with an injured wing, a hedgehog no bigger than a fist, and a fox cub still learning to trust people again. Priya asked the question everyone wanted answered: how do the keepers decide when an animal is ready to be released? The keeper, Miss Whitfield, gave a careful answer: an animal is only released once it can hunt, hide and survive completely alone. Before we left, each of us packed a small kit for our own nature journals: a magnifying glass, a notebook and a soft pencil. On the coach home, Jamal made a promise to himself: he would volunteer at the centre as soon as he was old enough.

1 Tick the two sentences below where the colon is used correctly.

- ☐ A) The zookeeper fed: the lions, the tigers and the wolves.
- ☐ B) Every visitor had to follow one rule: never feed the animals.
- ☐ C) The centre kept three rescued birds: an owl, a kestrel and a sparrowhawk.
- ☐ D) Before we left, we said goodbye to: the keepers and the animals.

2 In the passage, the final sentence reads 'Jamal made a promise to himself: he would volunteer at the centre as soon as he was old enough.' Explain the effect of the colon in this sentence on the reader.

(2)

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3 Write two sentences of your own, each using a colon correctly: one where the colon introduces a list, and one where the colon introduces an explanation.

(2)

4 Write a short paragraph (three to four sentences) about an imagined visit to an animal shelter or rescue centre. Your paragraph must include at least one colon introducing a list and one colon introducing an explanation. Underline each colon.

(4)

5 Six sentences are shown in the box below. Some use a colon correctly and some use a colon incorrectly (because the words before the colon do not make a complete sentence on their own). Sort each sentence into the correct column of the table.

Word bank: The trip included three stops: the museum, the beach and the harbour. | My favourite colours are: green, blue and purple. | Miss Adeyemi explained the rule clearly: stay behind the rope at all times. | The shelf held: books, photographs and old letters. | Jamal had only one wish: to see the fox cub up close. | We needed to bring: wellies, a raincoat and a torch.

Correct colon use	Incorrect colon use

(6)

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6 Insert a colon in the correct place in each sentence below, so that it correctly introduces the list that follows.

(a) Priya's bag held everything she needed a torch, a notebook and a pencil. **(1)**

(b) The centre looks after many animals owls, hedgehogs, foxes and badgers. **(1)**

(c) Three jobs needed doing before lunch feeding the animals, cleaning the pens and washing the bowls. **(1)**

(d) Our teacher gave us three instructions for the visit stay quiet, stay together and listen to the keepers. **(1)**

7 Insert a colon in the correct place in each sentence below, so that it correctly introduces the explanation that follows.

(a) Priya had only one fear the fox cub would be too frightened to eat. **(1)**

(b) The vet gave a simple answer the wing would heal within six weeks. **(1)**

(c) Jamal already knew the answer he wanted to work with animals one day. **(1)**

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8 Complete each sentence with a suitable ending from the box, adding a colon in the correct place.

Word bank: an owl with a broken wing, a hedgehog and a fox cub | never run near the enclosures | she would ask to volunteer every summer

(a) The keeper introduced us to three animals ___. **(1)**

(b) The centre had only one strict rule ___. **(1)**

(c) Priya made a quiet promise ___. **(1)**

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9 Join each pair of sentences below into one sentence, using a colon to introduce the second sentence as an explanation of the first. Remember that a lower-case letter usually follows the colon.

(a) The manager had good news. The centre was releasing the fox cub that afternoon. **(2)**

(b) Priya remembered the keeper's warning. Wild animals should never be touched. **(2)**

(c) The class reached one conclusion. Every animal deserved a second chance. **(2)**

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10 Circle the sentence in each pair that punctuates the colon correctly.

(a) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) The shelter needed: blankets, towels and bowls.
- ☐ B) The shelter needed three donations: blankets, towels and bowls.

(b) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) Priya's answer was simple: she loved every animal in the shelter.
- ☐ B) Priya's answer was: she loved every animal in the shelter.

(c) Which sentence is correct? **(1)**

- ☐ A) The centre's aim is to help: injured and orphaned animals.
- ☐ B) The centre has one aim: to help injured and orphaned animals.

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Mark scheme · 10.6 Colons: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

B ticked (Every visitor had to follow one rule: never feed the animals.) cao **B1**

C ticked (The centre kept three rescued birds: an owl, a kestrel and a sparrowhawk.) cao **B1**

Answer: **B and C**

Question 2

identifies that the colon creates a short pause before the promise is revealed **B1**

identifies an effect on the reader, e.g. builds anticipation and gives extra weight or importance to Jamal's decision (oe) **B1**

Answer: **The colon creates a brief pause that builds anticipation before the promise is revealed, giving Jamal's decision extra weight and emphasis.**

Question 3

sentence using a colon correctly to introduce a list, with a complete clause before the colon **B1**

sentence using a colon correctly to introduce an explanation, with a complete clause before the colon **B1**

Answer: **The vet's bag contained three tools: a stethoscope, bandages and a torch. The keeper had one hope: the barn owl would fly again by spring.**

Question 4

colon correctly used to introduce a list, with a complete clause before it, and underlined **B1**

colon correctly used to introduce an explanation, with a complete clause before it, and underlined **B1**

both colons follow genuinely complete introducing clauses rather than incomplete verb phrases **B1**

paragraph is written in connected, coherent sentences about a visit to an animal shelter or rescue centre **B1**

Answer: **Last Saturday, our club visited a small animal shelter near the river. The manager showed us three residents: a three-legged dog, a one-eyed cat and a very talkative parrot. Before we left, she told us her greatest hope: every animal in the shelter would find a loving home. We promised to come back and volunteer during the summer holidays.**

Question 5

The trip included three stops: the museum, the beach and the harbour. sorted as Correct colon use cao **B1**

Miss Adeyemi explained the rule clearly: stay behind the rope at all times. sorted as Correct colon use cao **B1**

Jamal had only one wish: to see the fox cub up close. sorted as Correct colon use cao **B1**

My favourite colours are: green, blue and purple. sorted as Incorrect colon use cao **B1**

The shelf held: books, photographs and old letters. sorted as Incorrect colon use cao **B1**

We needed to bring: wellies, a raincoat and a torch. sorted as Incorrect colon use cao **B1**

Answer:

Correct colon use	Incorrect colon use
The trip included three stops: the museum, the beach and the harbour.	My favourite colours are: green, blue and purple.
Miss Adeyemi explained the rule clearly: stay behind the rope at all times.	The shelf held: books, photographs and old letters.
Jamal had only one wish: to see the fox cub up close.	We needed to bring: wellies, a raincoat and a torch.

Question 6

(a) colon inserted after needed, before the list cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **Priya's bag held everything she needed: a torch, a notebook and a pencil.**

(b) colon inserted after animals, before the list cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **The centre looks after many animals: owls, hedgehogs, foxes and badgers.**

(c) colon inserted after lunch, before the list cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **Three jobs needed doing before lunch: feeding the animals, cleaning the pens and washing the bowls.**

(d) colon inserted after visit, before the list cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **Our teacher gave us three instructions for the visit: stay quiet, stay together and listen to the keepers.**

Question 7

(a) colon inserted after fear, before the explanation cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **Priya had only one fear: the fox cub would be too frightened to eat.**

(b) colon inserted after answer, before the explanation cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **The vet gave a simple answer: the wing would heal within six weeks.**

(c) colon inserted after answer, before the explanation cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **Jamal already knew the answer: he wanted to work with animals one day.**

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Question 8

(a) colon inserted after animals and an owl with a broken wing, a hedgehog and a fox cub chosen cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **The keeper introduced us to three animals: an owl with a broken wing, a hedgehog and a fox cub.**

(b) colon inserted after rule and never run near the enclosures chosen cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **The centre had only one strict rule: never run near the enclosures.**

(c) colon inserted after promise and she would ask to volunteer every summer chosen cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **Priya made a quiet promise: she would ask to volunteer every summer.**

Question 9

(a) colon inserted in place of the full stop, straight after news cao **B1**

(a) the centre kept lower-case after the colon cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **The manager had good news: the centre was releasing the fox cub that afternoon.**

(b) colon inserted in place of the full stop, straight after warning cao **B1**

(b) wild kept lower-case after the colon cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **Priya remembered the keeper's warning: wild animals should never be touched.**

(c) colon inserted in place of the full stop, straight after conclusion cao **B1**

(c) every kept lower-case after the colon cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **The class reached one conclusion: every animal deserved a second chance.**

Question 10

(a) B circled cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **B) The shelter needed three donations: blankets, towels and bowls.**

(b) A circled cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **A) Priya's answer was simple: she loved every animal in the shelter.**

(c) B circled cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **B) The centre has one aim: to help injured and orphaned animals.**

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