

Organising sentences

SEMICOLON

Semicolons can separate two closely linked clauses:

The water evaporated; I said it would.

They show there is some link between the two things separated:

Salt dissolves in water; sugar does too.

They can be used to separate complicated items in a list (where a comma won't do the job so well):

Our saucers contained salt, water and sugar; salt and water; sugar and water; water on its own.

Semicolons are stronger than commas, but weaker than full stops.

