

SEMICOLONS

A **semicolon** is used to **separate independent clauses** that are not joined by the words *and, but, so, yet, or, nor, or for*. Both independent clauses must be closely related in meaning.

I washed my car; however I didn't vacuum the inside.

Ellen was elected; she had more votes than two others.

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A **semicolon** is used to **separate groups of items in a series** when the items in the groups are **already separated by commas**.

Elementary students learn how to read, write, and spell; add, subtract, multiply, and divide; and study history and science.