



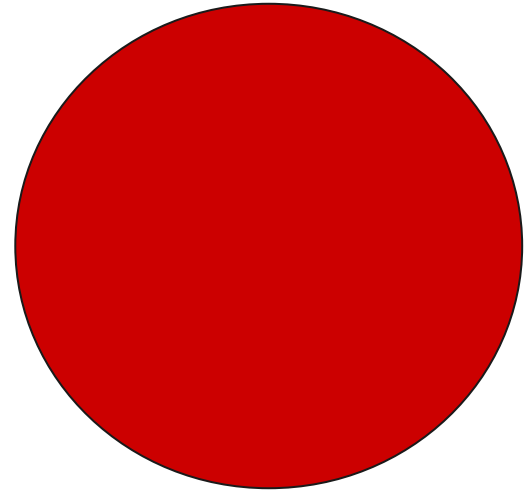
# Punctuation

40 pts

# STOP



- **Period**
- **Semicolon**
- **Comma + FANBOYS**
- **Question mark**
- **Exclamation mark**





For STOP punctuation, BOTH ideas  
have to be COMPLETE



## Vertical Line Test

- Use when you see STOP punctuation changing in the answer choice
  1. Draw a line where you see the punctuation changing.
  2. Then, read up to the vertical line
  3. Next, read after the vertical line

Does each side of the line show a COMPLETE thought? If so, you need a STOP punctuation.



## Vertical Line Test example

Jonah studied every day for the big test he was taking the SAT that Saturday.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) test, he was taking
- C) test, he was taking,
- D) test; he was taking



## Answer to practice:

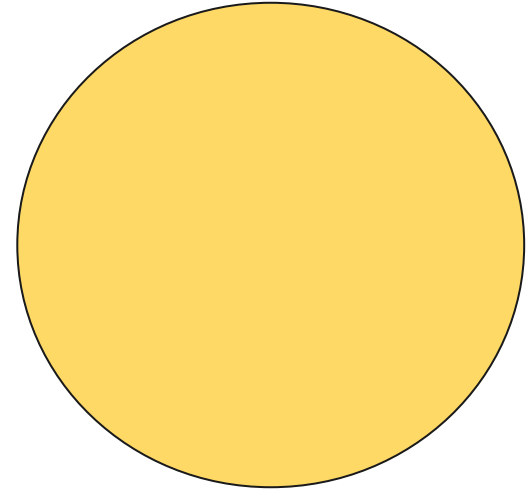
Jonah studied every day for the big test he was taking the SAT that Saturday.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) test, he was taking
- C) test, he was taking,
- D) test; he was taking

# Half-Stop



- Colon
- Long dash



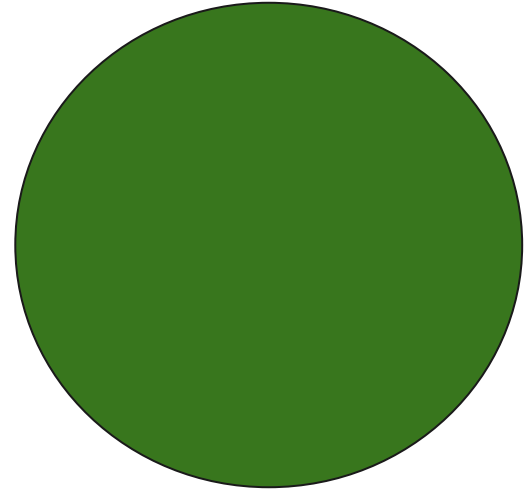


For a HALF-STOP, only 1 idea has to  
be COMPLETE



# GO

- 
- Comma
  - No punctuation



# Comma Rules to Know!

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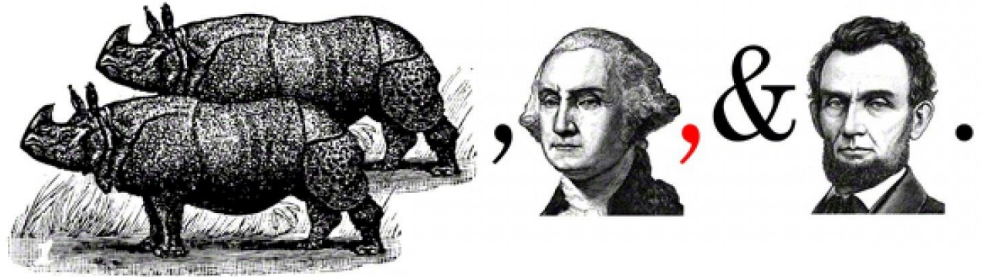
**\*\*Separate independent clauses connected by a FANBOYS conjunction (STOP punctuation)**

- Separate an introductory or modifying phrase from the rest of the sentence
- Set off 3 or more items in a series or list
- Separate nonessential information from the rest of the sentence
- Separate an independent and dependent clause

The SAT expects  
you to use the  
Oxford comma!

With the **Oxford Comma**:

We invited the rhinoceri, Washington, and Lincoln.



Without the Oxford Comma:

We invited the rhinoceri, Washington and Lincoln.





## **Nonessential info:**

- To determine if nonessential, read sentence without the info. If it makes sense, the information can be set off with punctuation (commas).

## Examples cont.



Jonah, everyone seemed fairly certain, was going to get into one of those schools.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Jonah everyone seemed fairly certain
- C) Jonah, everyone seemed fairly certain
- D) Jonah everyone seemed fairly certain,

## Examples cont.

Jonah, everyone seemed fairly certain, was going to get into one of those schools.

A) NO CHANGE

B) Jonah everyone seemed fairly certain

C) Jonah, everyone seemed fairly certain

D) Jonah everyone seemed fairly certain,



## Examples cont

His top-choice schools were Harvard, Yale and Princeton.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Harvard, Yale, and Princeton
- C) Harvard, Yale, and, Princeton
- D) Harvard Yale and Princeton



## Examples cont.

His top-choice schools were Harvard, Yale and Princeton.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Harvard, Yale, and Princeton
- C) Harvard, Yale, and, Princeton
- D) Harvard Yale and Princeton



# Semi-colons & Colons

## Semi-colon rules

- 1) to join 2 independent clauses that are related and/or equal, or possibly restate each other
- 2) Between items in a list that already includes commas

## Colon rules:

- 1) After an independent clause when introducing a list
- 2) After an independent clause when introducing a quotation.
- 3) Between 2 independent clauses when you want to emphasize the second clause.



# Dashes

- Indicate a hesitation or a break in thought

Example:

Going to a history museum is a good way to begin researching prehistoric creatures-- on second thought, heading to the library will likely be much more efficient (560).



# Examples

Samantha studied for the SAT-- she ended up doing really well on the test.

Samantha studied for the SAT, all three sections of it.

Samantha studied for the SAT: the silliest test in all the land.

Samantha studied for the SAT, the ACT, and every AP test in between.



## Example cont.

Whenever Jonah had a free moment -- he was studying.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) moment; he
- C) moment, he,
- D) moment, he



## Example cont.

Whenever Jonah had a free moment - he was studying.

Remember to use the LINE  
TEST!

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) moment; he
- C) moment, he,
- D) moment, he

# Apostrophes

If you can't give a reason for using one, then DON'T!

Only reasons to use:

- 1) Possessive nouns (though NOT pronouns)
- 2) Contractions (it's = it is {if you can not replace "it's" with "it is," then it should be "its" WITHOUT an apostrophe!})

## Examples cont.

Some of those very selective schools' require really high score's.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) selective school's require really high scores'.
- C) selective schools require really high score's.
- D) selective schools require really high scores.

## Examples cont.

Some of those very selective schools' require really high score's.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) selective school's require really high scores'.
- C) selective schools require really high score's.
- D) selective schools require really high scores.





**READ in your book the following pages**

559-571

Remember to use your active reading strategies!