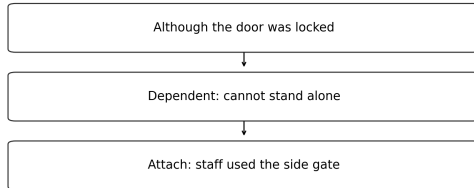


## Sentence boundaries, colons and nonessential information

Original skill preparation; versioned source scope

## Method and conditions



- A sentence boundary depends on clause structure.
- Subjects and finite verbs; independent/dependent clauses.

## Worked method 1

### Read and reason

A sentence boundary depends on clause structure. “Although the door was locked” is dependent; attach it to a complete clause. “Although the door was locked, staff could enter through the side gate.” A colon follows a complete introductory clause: “Staff used one entrance: the side gate.”

## Original context 1

### Read and reason

Original editing passage: Although the old station was closed [1] its clock still worked. The mechanism was simple [2] however, repairing the hands required a specialist. One part needed replacement [3] the narrow axle behind the dial. The clock [4] which stood above the entrance [5] had become a meeting point. For this exercise there is one clock, and the which-clause adds nonessential information.

## Attempt 1.1

### Read and reason

Supply punctuation at [1]–[5]. Give at least two valid boundaries at [2] and explain the clause test.

## Reasoning 1.1

### Read and reason

[1] comma attaches the introductory dependent clause. [2] semicolon or full stop, because the mechanism clause and repairing clause are independent; capitalise However after a full stop. [3] colon follows the complete clause “One part needed replacement” and introduces the part. [4],[5] paired commas mark the specified nonessential clause; matching dashes or parentheses also work.

## Attempt 2.1

### Read and reason

Explain why “One part needed: a replacement” differs from the valid colon sentence in the passage.

## Reasoning 2.1

### Read and reason

Needed directly requires its object “a replacement”; placing a colon there interrupts that grammatical unit. In “One part needed replacement: the narrow axle”, the independent clause is already complete and the explanation follows.

## Attempt 3.1

### Read and reason

Repair “The clock, above the entrance, and the bell was restored” while preserving the two restored objects. Explain agreement and any optional punctuation.

## Reasoning 3.1

### Read and reason

“The clock above the entrance and the bell were restored.” The compound subject takes were. Commas around “above the entrance” could be used if it is supplementary rather than identifying; that contextual choice does not change the compound agreement.

## Transfer and limits

### Read and reason

Subjects and finite verbs; independent/dependent clauses.

## Check yourself

### Read and reason

Close the worked reasoning. Explain why the method fits the final transfer task, reconstruct its conclusion, and state a condition that would change your answer. Then check the full reasoning in the reference.