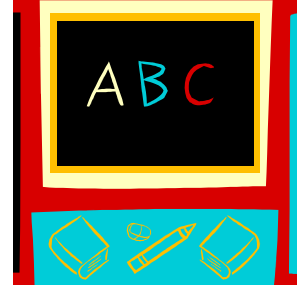


Colon Usage

When should I use a colon?

1. To end an independent clause and introduce various additions to that clause
 - Example: *The profile page can include almost any kind of information that a person might be interested to know about someone else: interests, activities, favorite movies, books, music, television shows, and quotations.*
2. To separate two independent but closely related clauses
 - Example: *Facebook is more than just the ultimate procrastination tool: it is a crucial and necessary component of connection and communication today.*
3. When a complete sentence introduces a quotation
 - Example: *This quote from a recent Michigan student study clearly points to college students' increased use of the site: "Our participants overwhelmingly used Facebook to keep in touch with old friends and to maintain or intensify relationships characterized by some form of offline connection such as dormitory proximity or a shared class" (Ellison, Steinfield, and Lampe 1162).*



When should I not use a colon?

Inside an independent clause, especially after a verb or the phrase *such as*

Work Consulted

Aaron, Jane E. *The Little, Brown Essential Handbook*. 7th ed. Boston: Longman, 2011. Print.