

- Marilyn Hamilton is an amazing woman, she turned a tragedy into an opportunity.
- Some people have that gift: they find a way to make the most of a bad situation.
- They learn from their own misfortune; they use what they learn to benefit others.

In which sentence are two independent clauses separated incorrectly with only a comma and no conjunction? _____

What punctuation marks are used to separate the independent clauses in the other two sentences? _____

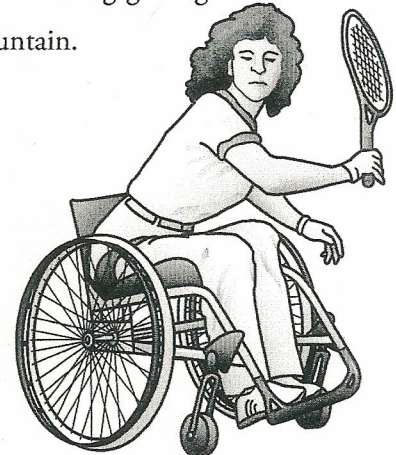
A **semicolon (;)** can be used instead of a comma and conjunction to separate the independent clauses in a **compound sentence**. A **colon (:)** can be used to separate two independent clauses when the second explains the first. It can also be used to introduce a list at the end of a sentence, to separate parts of references in a bibliography, and to separate hours and minutes in an expression of time.

See Handbook Sections 8, 13

Part 1

Write a colon or a semicolon to separate the clauses in each sentence.

- Marilyn Hamilton was a very active young woman she enjoyed tennis and hang-gliding.
- In 1978 an accident changed her life she crashed her glider into a mountain.
- Hamilton became paraplegic she lost the use of her legs.
- She confronted another problem her wheelchair was too bulky.
- A standard wheelchair weighed about fifty pounds she wanted a lighter one.
- She sought the aid of two friends both were weekend inventors.
- The two men designed gliders Hamilton asked them to build a wheelchair out of hang-gliding material.
- The new wheelchair was a vast improvement it weighed only twenty-six pounds.
- It looked sleek and sporty it had a compact frame and an angled back.
- Hamilton could return to sports she began competing in tournaments.
- She became a national tennis champion she also joined the U.S. Disabled Ski Team.
- Hamilton and her two friends went into business they began making wheelchairs.
- Her partners focused on design and manufacturing Hamilton focused on marketing.
- In response to customers' requests, she made another innovation she offered wheelchairs in bright colors.
- Soon the sporty-looking chairs were not just for sports they were for everyday use.



Hamilton used a sports wheelchair to win the 1983 U.S. Women's Open Wheelchair Tennis Championships.