

# Read and Discover

- The Galápagos Islands are located 600 miles west of Ecuador, they lie along the equator.
- These isolated islands are home to many unusual creatures: penguins, giant tortoises, and swimming iguanas are just a few of these.
- Scientists have studied Galápagos wildlife for centuries; they study not only the habits of certain species but also the interactions among them.

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? \_\_\_\_\_

HINT:

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. Note: **Four** sentences require a colon.

- About five million years ago the Galápagos Islands rose from the sea they are thought to be the result of volcanic explosions deep under the water. (and, so)
- These volcanic islands are barren and harsh initially they were lifeless. (and)
- ★ (3) Scientists have a theory about how wildlife came to the Galápagos creatures from South America rode there on "sea rafts" of vegetation. (because)
- These creatures were undisturbed for centuries over time they adapted to the environment in unique ways. (and, so)
- ★ (5) The marine iguana is quite unusual it swims in the rough surf. (because)
- Adult marine iguanas can dive forty feet they can stay underwater for thirty minutes. (and)
- Hundreds of years ago pirates stopped in the Galápagos some hid treasure there. (and)
- Whalers and seal hunters filled their ships with giant tortoises they used them for food during long voyages. (and)
- The Spanish name for the tortoises is *galápagos* the islands got their name from this word. (and, so)
- The tortoises are huge they can weigh up to 600 pounds. (and, so)
- At one time there were 250,000 tortoises in the Galápagos today there are fewer than 15,000. (but)
- ★ (12) Predators are responsible for much of this decrease they have eaten tortoise eggs and killed adult tortoises. (because)
- Human beings have caused animal predation we are now trying to protect the remaining tortoises. (and, so)
- Humans introduced dogs, pigs, and rats to the islands these animals prey on the tortoises' eggs. (and, so)
- ★ (15) Scientists have taken action to save the tortoises from extinction they have built a captive-breeding station. (because)

Colon can replace  
and  
but  
so

Colon can replace  
because  
answers  
"Why"