

Colons Used With Explanations

A colon is used as an introduction to an explanation when a independent clause precedes the explanation.

Example: The police told the criminal there was only one option open: give himself up.

The phrase “give himself up” explains what the option is. The phrase preceding the colon is an independent clause.

Rewrite each of the sentences below, using a colon when needed.

1 They liked the house lots of windows and big rooms.

2 Desperate times call for desperate measures, and this is a desperate time.

3 Ava hinted where the clue was in the top drawer.

4 The salesman offered a good deal a great laptop at an affordable price.

5 At the end of the day, there was just one thing left to do leave quietly.