

Name: _____ Date: _____

Semicolon Writing Prompt

Write a well-developed paragraph explaining your understanding of Swift's essay and the way the use of semicolons contributes to the tone. In your writing, show your understanding of the relationship of punctuation to meaning by using a semicolon at least twice as follows:

1. Show your understanding of a reader's expectations (rules) about semicolon use.
2. Imitate a use in Swift's essay that doesn't follow expectations but that does create meaning for someone with an understanding of Swift and semicolons (your teacher, your classmates, and you!).

This paragraph should be more than a rough draft, but you don't have to work through the whole writing process. Do some prewriting to generate ideas before beginning to draft. If you need it, revise sentences to facilitate effective punctuation. Refer to the EFFECTS OF SEMICOLON RUBRIC for expectations on ideas and punctuation. If you don't finish your writing in class, complete it at home and turn it in at our next class.

When you are ready to turn your paragraph in, attach the other documents from this lesson to it: your copy of the word document containing grouped sentences from "A Modest Proposal," the summary card about semicolon rules, your paragraph, and the rubric.