Using Semicolons and Colons

Name: _____ Date: _____

Part A: Understanding the Rules

Semicolon (;) joins two closely related independent clauses.
Colon (:) introduces a list, explanation, or example.

Part B: Choose Semicolon or Colon

Write either a semicolon (;) or colon (:) in each space.

1. The weather forecast was clear ___ heavy rain was expected all weekend.
2. Please bring the following items ___ a pencil, ruler, and calculator.
3. The concert was cancelled ___ the lead singer had lost her voice.
4. I have three favourite hobbies ___ reading, swimming, and painting.
5. The team trained hard all season ___ they were ready for the finals.
6. There's only one thing left to do ___ finish your homework.

Part C: Correct the Sentences

Rewrite each sentence with the correct punctuation.

1. The library was closed, we went to the bookshop instead.

   _____

2. You will need these ingredients, flour, sugar, eggs, and butter.

   _____

3. The message was simple, always do your best.

   _____

4. Sarah loves science, her brother prefers history.

   _____

Part D: Create Your Own

Write two sentences of your own using the punctuation indicated.

1. Write a sentence using a semicolon:

_____

_____

2. Write a sentence using a colon to introduce a list:

_____

_____