

Name _____

SEMICOLON CONSTRUCTION

Date _____

A semicolon is a comma with a period above it (;). A semicolon joins two thoughts that are about the same thing (topic). The two thoughts joined by a semicolon must be complete thoughts. That means that each thought could stand alone as a sentence.

We must make sure we understand if a group of words says a complete thought.

Examples: This puppy has a cute nose. (**complete thought**)
(**sentence**)

When our dad came home. (**not a complete thought**)
(**not a sentence**)

(We have a subject [dad] and a verb [came].

However, we don't know what happened when Dad came home.)

Ran down the street. (**not a complete thought**)
(**not a sentence**)

(We do not know *who* ran down the street. We are missing a subject.)

Directions: Write **S** in the blank if the group of words says a complete thought.
Write **NS** in the blank if the group of words does not say a complete thought.

1. _____ Their sister plays soccer.
2. _____ If you leave.
3. _____ In the afternoon.
4. _____ A jump rope is on the floor.