

Commas vs. Semicolons – Exercise 3

Each of the following sentences needs either a comma or a semicolon. Put in the necessary punctuation.

1. I thought registration day would be tiring but I didn't know I'd have to stand in so many lines.
2. The dog growling and snarling snapped at me I was so frightened that I ran.
3. Professors are supposed to be absent-minded and I've seen plenty of evidence to support that claim since I've been in college.
4. The suspect said that he had never met the victim however, the detective knew that he was lying.
5. I have read *Soul on Ice* but I have not read *The Invisible Man*.
6. The quarterback made a brilliant pass and the end crossed the goal line for the winning touchdown.
7. Ron and Mike were both in English class this morning they gave an interesting presentation on their research.
8. Riding a bicycle is excellent exercise I ride mine every day.
9. I am not interested in a trip to Asia this year however, I would like to go to Europe.
10. Not all highly educated people enjoy traveling but many world travelers are particularly well educated.
11. Jack worked overtime to pay off his education debts at least that was his explanation for his long hours.
12. Katherine has given up smoking about five times but she cannot seem to break the habit.
13. His work may be almost totally forgotten but he would certainly be surprised to see how much current scholarship simply echoes his ideas.
14. Our dog seems to have a built-in alarm clock he wakes us up at exactly the same time every morning.
15. The passengers on the plane were initially alarmed by the loss of altitude but the pilot and the crew kept them calm.
16. I realized at once that something was wrong I was not, however, the only person who was concerned.
17. I had to complete the assignment by Friday otherwise, I would have failed the course.
18. Ralph decided to be a chemist but he changed his mind after taking Chem. 121.
19. I finished reading *The Nation* and then I went to bed.
20. We always go to the mountains in the fall they are at their prettiest at that time of year.

21. Tim went to the candy store quite often the clerk even knew his name.

22. Criticism of capitalist expansionism does not surface in most discussions of the worldwide ecological crisis indeed, proposed solutions rarely deviate from a basic message of further technological "progress."

23. The president has pledged to cut taxes repeatedly and the public has responded enthusiastically.

24. The office was closed consequently I could not pay my bill.

25. The air was beautifully clear it was a lovely day.

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ANSWERS

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1. I thought registration day would be tiring, but I didn't know I'd have to stand in so many lines.
2. The dog, growling and snarling, snapped at me; I was so frightened that I ran.
3. Professors are supposed to be absent-minded , and I've seen plenty of evidence to support that claim since I've been in college.
4. The suspect said that he had never met the victim; however, the detective knew that he was lying.
5. I have read *Soul on Ice*, but I have not read *The Invisible Man*.
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