

# 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 preceeding 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.

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**They liked the house: lots of windows and big rooms.**

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**Ava hinted where the clue was: in the top drawer.**

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**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.

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