

18. TITLE:

Some; others

SENTENCES

EXAMPLES:

A. Some people love football; others just can't stand it.

(This would be a fantastic introduction to a piece of writing which explored both the merits and failings of football.)

B. Some days are full of enjoyment; others begin and end terribly.

(Used in this way, the *Some; others* sentence forms an effective opening for a story about a day full of terrible events.)

EXPLANATION:

Some; others sentences are, as suggested in the name, compound sentences which begin with the word *some* and have a semi-colon rather than a conjunction which separates the latter half of the sentence. They are useful as a way of introducing a dilemma/argument in both fiction and non-fiction contexts.

TEACHING TIPS:

It is sometimes useful to demonstrate how the semi-colon replaces the word *but*. Actively crossing out the word *but* and replacing it with a semi-colon can help pupils to place the semi-colon correctly. I also stress that the word following the semi-colon should not be capitalised, as numerous pupils I have taught have fallen into this habit.