Pattern 3

COMPOUND SENTENCE WITH EXPLANATORY STATEMENT (clauses separated by a colon)

General statement (idea): specific statement (example).

You must have an independent clause before and after the colon.

Use this pattern when you want the second part of the sentence to explain the first part, give an example, or provide an answer to an implied question.

Examples:

The bouquet was special: it contained the roses she loved.

A lizard never worries about losing its tail: it can always grow another.

Hawaii exceeded her expectations: the breezes were softer and the people kinder.