Semi-Colons

Example #1: Joining two closely-related independent clauses

Pratt views the literate arts of the contact zone as potentially subversive; Guaman Poma’s letter subverts the authority of colonial Spain.

Example #2: Joining two related independent clauses when the second begins with a transitional phrase or conjunctive adverb.

Pratt begins her essay with a discussion of her son’s learning experience with baseball; in many ways, her son’s experiences foreshadow the kind of learning to be found in Poma’s letters.

~Other transitional phrases: in the meantime, on the other hand, in fact, for example, etc.

~Other conjunctive adverbs: moreover, therefore, furthermore, additionally, finally, etc.

COLONS

Example #1: To introduce a series or list

Pratt introduces several key terms in her essay: transculturation, autoethnography, and contact zone.

Example #2: To introduce an example or quotation

Pratt differentiates between ethnographic and autoethnographic texts: “autoethnographic texts are representations that the so-defined others construct in response to or in dialogue with those texts” (519-520).