The semicolon:

1. Use the semicolon between main clauses not joined by coordinate conjunctions.

2. Use the semicolon between main clauses joined by the words:
   for, for instance, that is, besides, accordingly, moreover, nevertheless, furthermore, otherwise, therefore, however, consequently, also, instead, hence, still.

3. Use the semicolon between main clauses if there are commas within the clauses and between items in a series if the items contain commas.

The colon:

Use a colon to mean “note what follows.”

As a mark of punctuation which “looked forward, “ the colon is commonly used in three constructions:

1. Use a colon before a list of appositives or a list of any kind introduced formally by such words as the following or as follows. When the listed items follow immediately after the verb, no punctuation is required.

2. Use a colon before a long and formal statement or quotation.

   Dr. Stoddard made the following observations: The time is coming when a general college education will be as common as a high school education is today. . . (Note that a formal statement like this need not be enclosed in quotation marks.)

3. Use a colon between main clauses when the second clause explains or restates the idea in the first.