Quote Colon Check

Decide whether each colon introduces a quotation correctly.

8.L.GC.1.59 "Mechanics: Use colons to introduce quotations. (Introduce)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

CORRECT COLON USE

A colon can introduce a quotation when the words before it form a complete sentence.

Jules announced: "Auroras glow above Arctic ice."

REVISE THE COLON

The colon does not have a complete sentence before it, so it cannot introduce the quotation correctly.

At sunrise: "Penguins gather," biologist Noor noted.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CORRECT or REVISE for each sentence, then choose two items and explain how the words before each colon helped you decide.

1.	Tariq wrote this note: "I saved a seat for you."	CORRECT REVISE
2.	Coach Evans gave this direction: "Run one more lap."	CORRECT REVISE
3.	After lunch: "We will begin the lab," Ms. Chen said.	CORRECT REVISE
4.	Our principal made this announcement: "Friday will be a half day."	CORRECT REVISE
5.	The librarian: said, "Return the atlas by Monday."	CORRECT REVISE
6.	Because the wind was strong: "The game is canceled."	CORRECT REVISE
7.	My brother made this promise: "I will feed the fish tonight."	CORRECT REVISE
8.	Before the concert: "Please silence your phones," the usher said.	CORRECT REVISE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new CORRECT sentence and one new REVISE sentence, each with a quotation.

CORRECT _____

REVISE _____

CHALLENGE

Rewrite this sentence so a colon correctly introduces the quotation: Before dinner: "Wash your hands," Aunt Rosa said.

ANSWER KEY # Quote Colon Check

GRADE 8 · 8.L.GC.1.59

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Tariq wrote this note: "I saved a seat for you."	**CORRECT**	The words before the colon form a complete sentence and introduce the quotation.
2	Coach Evans gave this direction: "Run one more lap."	**CORRECT**	The complete sentence before the colon introduces the quotation.
3	After lunch: "We will begin the lab," Ms. Chen said.	**REVISE**	"After lunch" is a phrase, not a complete sentence.
4	Our principal made this announcement: "Friday will be a half day."	**CORRECT**	The complete sentence before the colon introduces the quotation.
5	The librarian: said, "Return the atlas by Monday."	**REVISE**	The colon splits the subject from its verb and does not follow a complete sentence.
6	Because the wind was strong: "The game is canceled."	**REVISE**	"Because the wind was strong" is not a complete sentence.
7	My brother made this promise: "I will feed the fish tonight."	**CORRECT**	The complete sentence before the colon introduces the quotation.
8	Before the concert: "Please silence your phones," the usher said.	**REVISE**	"Before the concert" is a phrase, not a complete sentence.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CORRECT**: Captain Vega announced: "The boat leaves at dawn."
- **REVISE**: At the gate: "Tickets are sold inside," the guard said.

Challenge: Before dinner, Aunt Rosa said: "Wash your hands."

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify whether a complete sentence comes before the colon. In Part 3, the CORRECT example must have a complete lead-in before the colon.