BrainPOP Related Reading - Colons



Punctuation can look very similar when you're looking at languages other than English—but don't be fooled! Although many of the same punctuation marks are used in other languages, they're not always used in the same way.

For example, quotation marks exist in many European languages, but the French don't use them around quotations. Instead, they use angled brackets, as seen in the image here. French is also the only language in which a space is put before a colon!



In Greek, a mark that looks a lot like the English semicolon is used instead of a question mark at the end of a question—and instead of colons and semicolons, the Greeks use a raised dot (•) known as the **ano** teleia!

And while most words following a colon in English begin with a lowercase letter (except if it's a quote or name), in languages like German and Dutch, most words following a colon begin with a capital letter, unless the clause after the colon can't stand on its own as a sentence.

And you thought learning about English punctuation was hard!