*Sentences: Read these sentences. What do you notice?*

The deputy told me to empty my pockets: two quarters, a penny, a stick of bubble gum, and roll of grip tape for my skateboard.  -- Carl Hiaasen, Flush (2006)

     "Empty your pockets!"

     Reluctantly, one by one, Hugo pulled out dozens of objects: screws and nails and bits of metal, gears and crumpled playing cards, tiny pieces of clockworks, cogs and wheels.

   -- Brian Selznick, The Invention of Hugo Cabret (2007)

The TSA employee emptied my backpack: three books, a journal, and 17 pens.  -- Jeff Anderson

*It’s your turn to imitate. Use this pattern to create a sentence.*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ told me to empty my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Students need to know these things about colons:

-- Colons can introduce lists.

-- Colons emphasize to a reader that something important

 will follow.

-- A colon can also introduce a complete sentence.

But the car is quiet for now, as are the noontime streets: gas stations, boundless concrete, brick buildings with plywood windows.

 -- Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, Freakonomics (2005)

Before I do anything else, I need to go back over everything that has happened this summer: the Big Mistake, the old man, the book, the lamp, the telescope, and this box, which started it all.

   -- Wendy Mass, Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life (2006)

I pulled the latch on the mailbox and fanned through the stack of letters: an electricity bill, a New York Times renewal notice, a bank statement, and a  Bon Appetit magazine.

-- Tracy Mack, Drawing Lessons (2002)

**Colons also introduce complete sentences and quotes.**

**(The colon acts as a fanfare for what follows.)**

Take time for all things: Great haste makes great waste.

 -- Benjamin Franklin

He took his Scout motto seriously: Be prepared.

-- Andrew Clements, *A Week in the Woods* (2004)

I tried to concentrate on Ms. Meadows's advice: "Just listen to yourself and put it down (on paper."

--Tracy Mack, *Drawing Lessons* (2002)

This was all his life had been since April 29 of last year: a ride to somewhere he didn't want to go.

 --  Jerry Spinelli, *Eggs* (2007)