

CHAPTER 3: Revising and Editing

Answer Key

PRACTICE 1

A. In this computer age, electronic voting seems like a logical way to collect and count votes. However, paperless electronic voting is both unreliable and dangerous. First, the software in voting machines may be faulty. During the 2006 midterm elections, overseers in some states noted that machines switched votes from one candidate to another because of touch-screen problems. Additionally, voting machines can be easily manipulated. In 2004, Maryland hired RABA Technologies to try to hack the state's new voting machines. Computer whizzes were able to vote more than once and change voting outcomes, and they concluded that even high-school students could hack the machines. In Holland, hackers using telephone lines were able to manipulate and delete votes. ~~However, electronic voting has some good points. The elimination of paper ballots is good for the environment. Also, votes can be counted more quickly by machine than they can by hand.~~ Certainly, governments should think twice about implementing electronic voting machines.

Circle the correct answer: The paragraph

a. has unity or ☒ b. lacks unity.

B. To minimize the problems associated with divorce, parents need to maintain a stable environment for their children. For example, any fighting over finances or child visitation should not occur in front of the children. Parents should try to live near each other so that the kids have easy access to both parents. To further stabilize children's lives after a divorce, many parents now opt for the "family home." The kids don't have to change houses to visit each parent; instead, the parents take turns living in the family home. If parents just remember to put children first, then the effects of divorce on the children can be minimized.

Circle the correct letter: The paragraph

☒ a. has unity or b. lacks unity.

C. When people watch movies, they rarely appreciate a very important part of the filmmaking process. Foley artists make movies come alive by using simple, everyday objects to create sound effects. For example, to reproduce the sound of crickets, a foley artist can simply run a fingernail along the teeth of a comb. The sounds of a fight can be created by hitting watermelons and breaking pieces of bamboo. Twisting cellophane resembles the crackling of a fire. ~~The Lord of Rings had many astounding visual effects, including computer generated characters such as orcs. The filmmakers also used clever camera angles to make Frodo, the main hobbit, look very small.~~ Even though technology has become more sophisticated and libraries of recorded sound effects exist, most directors still prefer the involvement of foley artists.

Circle the correct letter: The paragraph

a. has unity or ☒ b. lacks unity.

PRACTICE 4

When you go backpacking in a foreign country, there are a few simple things you should pack for the trip. First, bring clothing that is easy to wash. Leave items that need ironing or dry cleaning at home. Also, make sure you pack a small medical kit. It could be difficult and expensive to find things such as aspirin and bandages if you're on a beach in Thailand. Furthermore, bring a comfortable money belt that you can wear under your clothing. However, try not to overpack. After you've packed your bag, remove items so that there is a small empty space in your pack. Undoubtedly, you will find and buy souvenirs during your trip.