

EXERCISE 10-1 **Needed words: Guided practice**

Add any words needed for grammatical or logical completeness in the following paragraphs. The numbers in the margin refer to appropriate rules in section 10 of *Rules for Writers*, Fifth Edition. The first revision has been done for you, and a suggested revision of this exercise appears in the back of the book.

Mary Wollstonecraft, an eighteenth-century writer, may have been England’s first feminist. Her entire life reflected her belief in equal rights for women in all areas of their lives: personal, intellectual, and professional.

From childhood, she never had ^{accepted} and never would accept the idea that men were superior to women. As a young girl, she knew that her drinking and gambling father deserved less respect than her long-suffering mother. As an adult, she demanded that society give her the same freedom it gave to men. 10a

Wollstonecraft also demanded men pay attention to her ideas. She did not argue about an idea. Instead, she gave an example of what she objected to and invited her readers to think about it from various points of view. Working this way, she made few enemies among intellectuals. Indeed, she was attracted and respected by some of the leading intellectuals of her day. Among them she was as well known on one side of the Atlantic as on the other. Tom Paine, the American orator and writer, probably knew her better than Samuel Johnson, the English writer. 10b

Professionally, she was a governess, teacher, and writer. When her father’s drinking destroyed the family, she and her sisters started a girls’ school. Eventually, financial problems forced the school to close, but not before Mary had acquired enough firsthand experience to write *Thoughts on the Education of Daughters* (1786). As competent or more competent than other writers of the day, she was a more persuasive advocate for women than most of them. 10a

Modern feminists may find it ironic that current encyclopedia entries for “Wollstonecraft” refer researchers to “Godwin,” her married name—where they will find an entry for her longer than her famous husband, William Godwin. 10c