

**EXERCISE 10-4**    **Needed words: Guided review**

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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.

Most people in her era found <sup>that</sup> Mary Wollstonecraft used very persuasive techniques. 10b  
She did not argue and never had by directly attacking those who disagreed with her. 10a

More astute than other women of her day, she used anecdotal “observations.” She knew disarming stories and anecdotes would make her point best. Since she did not argue, her listeners never felt they had to defend their own positions and were able to listen to her stories with reasonably open minds. The stories, which often made clever use of allegory and metaphor, came from her own experience and observation. Preferring examples from dressmaking to other occupations, she chose stories that illustrated her points and let the anecdotes speak for themselves. Her technique was as convincing, or more convincing than, outright argument. 10b

Mary Wollstonecraft’s sense of timing was also good. In 1790, she wrote a pamphlet entitled *A Vindication of the Rights of Men*. Part of her reason for writing it was to respond to the excitement caused by the French Revolution (1789–1799). People liked her pamphlet very much. While enthusiasm was still high, she produced *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* in 1792. It, too, was well received. 10c

No doubt part of Mary Wollstonecraft’s unusually effective writing came from the fact that she not only believed in but also lived the ideas she wrote about. 10c