

EXERCISE 13-4 Distracting shifts: Guided review

Edit the following paragraphs to eliminate any distracting shifts. The numbers in the margin refer to appropriate rules in section 13 of *Rules for Writers*, Fifth Edition. The first revision has been done for you.

Frederick Douglass, who was born a slave and became a much sought-after lecturer and writer, was a man of strong will and convictions.

Douglass never hesitated to defend the choices he ^{made}~~makes~~ for himself and his family. 13b
On trains he sat in cars reserved for “whites only” until security officers dragged him away.

He walked out of a church when it was realized that none of his people could participate in the service until the white people were through. 13c

Wherever he lived, Douglass fought slavery. When he published his autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, in 1845, he was still a fugitive slave. He and his wife moved to England the same year because he feared that his book would reveal his identity as a fugitive slave. Also, some of his other writings had aroused so much animosity that he fears for his life. From England, he wrote letters and worked to gain support for 13b

freeing the slaves. After friends in England raised enough money to buy his freedom for him, he was even more determined to help others gain their freedom. (Slaves used to say that a free black was never there when you needed help, but no one could ever say that about Frederick Douglass.) 13a

Douglass was outspoken in his support for the causes he believed in. When the Civil War broke out, Douglass comes back to the United States to help recruit African Americans to fight. “This war is for you and your children,” he told them. Douglass also supported women’s suffrage, and he defended the right of members of different races to marry if they wished. When Douglass married his second wife, a white woman, critics complained. He answered them by saying, “My first wife was the color of my mother” and that the second was the color of his father, so he was not playing favorites. 13d