

**EXERCISE 34-1 The semicolon: Guided practice**

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Edit the following paragraphs for semicolon use. The numbers in the margin refer to appropriate rules in section 34 of *Rules for Writers*, Fifth Edition. The first revision has been done for you, and answers to this exercise appear in the back of the book.

When Cheryl Toussaint came in second in a race she had never planned to run<sup>^</sup>, she started on a road that led to the Olympics and a world record. 34d

Cheryl began running almost by accident one day when she went to watch a city-sponsored track meet in Brooklyn, New York. During the preliminaries, the officials announced an “open” race, it was one that anyone could enter. Cheryl wanted to enter; but she was dressed in a skirt and sandals. Four things made her run; one friend traded shoes with her, another let her borrow jeans, several called her “chicken” if she didn’t run, and one girl dared her to run. Coming in second in that race led this teenager to many places, including Munich, Germany, Toronto, Canada, and Montreal, Canada. 34a, 34d  
34d  
34c

There were, however, many races to run and lessons to learn. Cheryl joined the all-female Atoms Track Club, and she began training under Coach Fred Thompson. Like most coaches, Fred had his own way of testing newcomers. He watched a new runner carefully, however, he gave her no special attention. Instead, he just gave her orders one after another. He would tell Cheryl to run laps, go through exercises, and do practice starts, at the same time he would never comment on how she performed. If the newcomer endured the hard, time-consuming workouts without encouragement or praise; Thompson was sure that she was ready for real coaching. 34b  
34a  
34d

Cheryl quit after two months, for six more months she stayed out. During that time she thought about her attitude toward work, her poor record at school, her pleasure in running, and her lack of goals. When she returned; Thompson welcomed her back. Coach Thompson knew how special Cheryl was, he not only convinced her she was college material but pushed her to achieve the highest goal of the amateur athlete—the Olympics. 34a  
34d  
34a