

EXERCISE 34-4 The semicolon: Guided review

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.

Every runner dreams of winning both individual and relay medals at the Olympics;^{34a}
in 1972, Cheryl Toussaint was no exception. When she did not make the individual finals;^{34d}
she pinned her hopes on the relay race. Her teammates on the American team were ready:
Mabel Ferguson, Madeline Jackson, and Kathy Hammond. The relay was Cheryl's last
chance to win a medal, unfortunately, it seemed that everything was against her. ^{34b}

Cheryl began the third leg of the qualifying heat with runners ahead of her. Then a
runner in front of her fell. As Cheryl dashed around her, another runner stepped on the
heel of Cheryl's left shoe, so Cheryl was running with her shoe half on and half off. She
needed to stop and pull the shoe on, but she knew two things: She would lose valuable time,
and this was her team's last chance to qualify for the finals. She kept running, very soon ^{34a}
the shoe flew up in the air. Cheryl wondered whether the shoe would hit anyone, whether
TV viewers could see her bare foot, and whether people in the stands had noticed. But she
ran on, passing the other runners. Her team qualified for the finals that day, and in the fi-
nals, Cheryl and her teammates won silver medals.

Cheryl remembered her very first run, at which she hadn't even known how to start, ^{34c}
her first "real" race, at which she'd crawled to the finish line, and her most recent one, at
which she'd failed to qualify for the 800-meter run. She could laugh about all those mem-
ories now, for she and her teammates were Olympic winners.

Back home, Cheryl kept to her plans: graduating from college (with a B+ average), get-
ting a job in the Federal Reserve Bank's management training program, and starting to train
for the next Olympics. She knew that nothing would ever mean as much to her again as
track, the Atoms, and Coach Thompson had meant her success was also theirs. ^{34a}