

EXERCISE 36-1 The apostrophe: Guided practice

In the following paragraphs, add apostrophes where they are missing and delete or correct them where they have been misused. The numbers in the margin refer to appropriate rules in section 36 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.

During the 1990 troubles in Panama, American television and newspaper reporters had an exciting piece of news. They reported that for the first time American female soldiers had been engaged in actual combat. Acting as her ^{soldiers'} ~~soldiers~~ leader, Captain Linda Bray led her troops into combat. Names of two additional women who were involved in combat, Staff Sergeant April Hanley and PFC Christina Proctor, were reported in the newspapers. Their's were the only names reported, although other women also took part.

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It wasn't the first time an American woman had fought in an American battle, but its not likely that many people are aware of that fact. The Civil War had its female fighters too. Loreta Janeta Velazquez fought for the Confederates' in the Civil War after her husbands death. Like many other women whose husbands were killed in that war, she must have asked herself, "Whose going to take his place in battle?" The decision to fight was her's alone. Someone is sure to ask how that was possible, even in those days. Military identification was not very sophisticated in the 1860s. Someones willingness to fight was that person's major qualification, and each fighting unit needed to replace it's losses as fast as possible. Velazquez simply disguised herself in mens clothing, found a troop needing replacements, and joined the fight. Loreta Janeta Velazquez was Linda Brays Civil War predecessor.

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