

EXERCISE 37-4 Quotation marks: Guided review

Edit the following paragraphs to correct the use of quotation marks and punctuation used with quotation marks. The numbers in the margin refer to appropriate rules in section 37 of *Rules for Writers*, Fifth Edition. The first revision has been done for you.

Louis Braille entered the National Institute for Blind Youths in Paris when he was ten. At twelve, he was already experimenting with a system of raised letters known as “night-writing,” which was used by the military. Institute teachers decided that night-writing was impractical, but Louis became proficient at it. When Charles Barbier, inventor of the system, visited the institute, Louis told him “Your symbols are too large and too complicated. Impressed, Barbier encouraged him and said that “since Louis was blind himself, he might discover the magic key that had eluded his teachers.”

37f
37f, 37a
37g

Louis Braille wanted a system that would work for everything from a textbook on science to a poem like Heinrich Heine’s Loreley. At fifteen, he had worked out his own system of six dots arranged in various patterns. “Read to me,” he said to one of his teachers, and I will take down your words.” As the teacher read, Louis punched his paper and then read the passage back without error. The teacher exclaimed, “Remarkable”! Government officials, not impressed enough to take any action, said simply that Braille should be encouraged. “You didn’t say “encouraged,” did you?” asked Braille. He wanted official acceptance, not simply encouragement. “The system has proved itself,” said Louis. We have been using it for five years now.”

37d
37f
37f
37c
37f

For most people, the word Braille itself now means simply a system of reading and writing used by blind people; for blind people, it means freedom and independence. Braille himself died before his system was recognized beyond the institute. The plaque on the house of his birth, however, records the world’s recognition of his work with these words: He opened the doors of knowledge to all those who cannot see.

37e
37a