

EXERCISE 38-3 End punctuation: Guided review

Supply appropriate end punctuation in the following paragraphs. The numbers in the margin refer to appropriate rules in section 38 of *Rules for Writers*, Fifth Edition. The first revision has been done for you.

Braille's system depended on a group of six dots. He called this group a "cell." He conceived of the cell as three rows with space for two dots on each row. But he did not have to put two dots on each row, and he did not have to use all three rows. Figuring it this way, Braille counted sixty-three possible arrangements for the dots. Using these possibilities, Braille worked out an alphabet. Then he added punctuation marks and numerals. But he still was not satisfied. There was something else that he wanted to do. 38a

Braille knew very well that blindness does not keep someone from becoming proficient at a particular skill. Like many other blind people, Braille himself was an accomplished musician. As a young boy at the National Institute for Blind Youths, he had learned to play several instruments. But he could play only by ear. Louis Braille wanted to be able to read music, play what he read, and then write music that other musicians could read and play. 38a

When Braille was only fifteen, he devised a way to write music using his six-dot cell. As soon as he knew it was workable, he wanted a piano of his own to try it on. By saving his small salary, he was able to buy a piano. Next he wanted lessons. Paris had many good music teachers. Braille took lessons from some of the best and then began to teach piano and violoncello at the institute. He also gave frequent piano recitals throughout Paris. 38a

When he knew he was good on the piano, Braille said it was time to play something else "God's music," the church organ, was what he wanted to learn. With great effort he learned to manage the foot pedals, the double keyboard, and the rows of stops. St. Nicholas-des-Champs Church hired him as organist. However, Braille found himself so busy thinking about stops and pedals that he couldn't keep up with the service at first. Did he resign? Of course not. Braille simply became so familiar with the music that he did not have to think about it and could follow the church service as it went along. Louis Braille may have been the first blind organist in Paris, but he was not the last. In Braille's lifetime, the institute's music director placed more than fifty blind organists in the city. 38a
38b
38c

EXERCISE 38-3(continued)

Many people have wondered where Braille got the idea of adapting the Braille system to music. Did it come from one of his teachers Or one of his friends Or from his own mind? 38b, 38b

Whichever way it happened, the Braille system was adapted for music, and again Braille opened a new world to the blind. What an extraordinary gift this was Except for sight itself, 38c

could anyone have given blind musicians a greater gift 38b