

EXERCISE 40/41/42-1 **Abbreviations, numbers, and italics: Guided practice**

Correct any error in abbreviations, numbers, and italics in the following paragraphs. The numbers in the margin refer to appropriate rules in sections 40–42 of *Rules for Writers*, Fifth Edition. The first revision has been done for you, and a suggested revision of these paragraphs appears in the back of the book.

Everyone has heard of Christopher Columbus, but not many people know much about him. Most people learn that he discovered America in ^{A.D. 1492.}~~1492 A.D.~~ Some people know that he had three ships, and they might be able to name them. (The ships were the “Niña,” the “Pinta,” and the “Santa María.”) A few people might even remember that Columbus thought he had found the Indies. And those with great self-confidence might be willing to guess at the number of trips he made to his India. (It was 4.) Probably no one could tell you his favorite word, *adelante*.

40c
42b
41a
42d

If they were asked what Columbus was trying to prove with his expensive journey, most people would reply that he was trying to prove the world is round. They would be wrong. If they were asked what Columbus meant by “the Indies,” they would probably say “India.” They would be wrong again. If they were asked what Columbus’s rank was, they would most likely say “captain.” They would be wrong again. If they were asked what his sailors feared most, a no. of them would reply, “They feared that the boats would fall off the edge of the earth.” And they would be wrong *again*.

40e
42e

Isn’t it strange that people can be so ignorant about a well-known man like Columbus?