

# Writing Clearly: Grammar for Editing, 3E

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## Answer Key

### SECTION 1

#### Unit 1

##### ***Pre-test: What Do You Already Know?***

See page 350 of *Writing Clearly, Third Edition* for answers to the Pre-test.

##### ***Practice What You Have Learned (pages 21–25)***

##### **Exercise 1 (page 21)**

- I* 1. I have been interested in physics since high school.
- I* 2. Having good social skills is essential for my job, and I decided (OR have decided) to take a class in personal communication.
- I* 3. Since she was a child, she has liked sports, especially water sports, such as swimming and waterskiing.
- I* 4. Mario graduated as a veterinarian in January of last year.
- C* 5. *Correct*
- I* 6. First, we went to Italy. Then, we traveled to Austria and Germany. Finally, we visited Spain.
- I* 7. The professor gave an introduction to the course yesterday, the first day of class.
- I* 8. There are rumors that college tuition will be (OR is going to be) higher next year.
- C* 9. *Correct*
- I* 10. In my opinion, voting in elections is very important.

##### **Exercise 2 (page 22)**

- 1. helps
- 2. is
- 3. have learned OR am learning OR have been learning
- 4. plans
- 5. goes
- 6. writes
- 7. has OR will have OR is going to have
- 8. will spend OR is going to spend
- 9. schedules
- 10. sets
- 11. is
- 12. disciplines
- 13. has completed OR completes

14. invited OR had invited
15. refused
16. had not finished
17. know
18. will make OR am going to make

### Exercise 3 (page 23)

1. read
2. am writing
3. have heard
4. graduated
5. fulfilled
6. am working
7. will complete OR am completing OR will have completed
8. am looking for OR have been looking for
9. will need OR will be needing OR am going to need
10. have visited
11. find
12. enclose OR am enclosing OR have enclosed

### Exercise 4 (page 24)

#### Option A

I have a positive attitude toward writing in English. When I first came to the United States, I was very confused about using English, a new and strange language. But as time went by, my feeling toward the language began to change. I forced myself to write even though it was hard at first. I wrote a lot, and I became more confident each time I wrote. Now, although I am more confident about writing, I still have many problems to overcome. I find that writing takes a great deal of time, and one has to be patient and disciplined in order to be good at it. At times, I am (OR have been) frustrated and impatient with my writing. In fact, sometimes I sit for hours and cannot write even a word. Nevertheless, despite my frustration and long hours of work, I tend to have a positive attitude toward writing in English. Even though English is not my native language, I have found that I simply like to write.

#### Option B

I have a positive attitude toward writing in English. When I first came to the United States, I was very confused about using English, a new and strange language. But as time has gone by, my feeling toward the language has begun to change. I have forced OR force myself to write even though it was hard at first. I have written (OR write) a lot, and I have become (OR become OR am becoming) more confident each time I write. (*The rest of the paragraph remains the same as Option A.*)

### Exercise 5 (page 24)

Children of immigrants who do not speak English often function more like adults than children. As a child of immigrant parents myself, I have often had to act as an adult.

Ever since my family arrived here five years ago, I have taken (OR have been taking) care of them in many ways. I have had to pay the rent, the utilities, the telephone, and any other bills. I have translated (OR translate) letters from English to Vietnamese for the whole family. When a family member is sick (OR has been), I have gone (OR go) along to the doctor to explain the problem and to translate the doctor's suggestions. I believe it has been good for me to do all these things because it has prepared (OR prepares OR is preparing) me for what I will face when I am living on my own. Having adult responsibilities has given (OR gives OR is giving) me the chance to understand what the world is like outside of my home. It provides me with hands-on training and has been beneficial for me.

### Exercise 6 (page 26)

Luckily for me, at the very end of my first semester here at college, my grades changed for the better. My Chemistry 1A class last semester is one example. At the start of the semester, I did not understand the materials or the problems. I was confused when I read and tried to solve problems. Even though I did the homework and went to all the laboratory sessions, my understanding did not seem to improve. In fact, on my first and second tests, I received a D and an F. After receiving those two grades, I started to realize that I had to change the way I was studying. I decided to put myself on a strict schedule and to go to the library every day after dinner. I continued to follow this plan until the end of the semester. Even now, I still cannot believe how well I did on my final. I received a B on the final and a C for the semester. This is what I think happened: When I reviewed all the materials systematically, I was able to understand principles of chemistry that I did not understand before.

### Post-test: What Do You Know Now? (page 26-28)

#### A (page 26)

- I 1. My high school teacher has used the same textbook for algebra since 2009.
- I 2. When they begin taking a Chinese language class, many students are nervous about learning the writing system.
- C 3. *Correct*
- I 4. It seems very cold in the classroom, and most students are wearing jackets.
- I 5. World War I lasted from 1914–1918.
- C 6. *Correct*
- I 7. The instructor had written (OR was writing) the grammar exam last Friday when she suddenly realized she had forgotten to teach a particular point.
- C 8. *Correct*
- I 9. In a recent article, Lawrence Thomas, a teacher in Kansas, says that he never votes. He also says that he is against paying taxes.
- I 10. Yesterday we celebrated Thanksgiving, and most of us ate turkey; many of us also ate pumpkin pie.

#### B (page 26)

- 1. b

2. b
3. a

**C (page 27)**

1. In 1849, many people came to Northern California to hunt for gold. They soon found that looking for it was hard and dangerous work. Many then decided to open up businesses to sell equipment and supplies to the miners. Some became very wealthy because they had struck gold above ground.

2. Although there are many different routes to obtaining an education, going to college is not the only path. In her article, “Where Learning Takes Place,” retired English professor Patricia Harrelson shares her philosophy that attending college is not the only means of getting an education. Harrelson sees self-directed learning as learning that does not occur in a classroom. She lists such activities as cooking, gardening, and parenting as self-directed education. Although Harrelson views self-directed learning as something that cannot be achieved in a formal college setting, it is my belief that self-directed learning and traditional college learning can be combined.

**D (page 27)**

Finals week is a time of great pressure for college students. In many courses, a big percentage of the final grade is based on the final exam, and the final itself covers an entire semester of material taught. Also, all final exams are taken during just one week. Some students study for three or four, maybe even five, finals during finals week. This can really be exhausting, especially for first-year students who are experiencing finals week for the first time. What students find the most difficult of all is to have two final exams on the same day. Last quarter was my first experience of finals week. I had never thought that I would ever spend so much time studying. In fact, the night before my math final, I slept for only two hours. I stayed up all night trying to memorize all of the equations for the final. After the math final, I came home and went straight to bed. I think having a week of no classes before finals week would ease the pressure and help students perform better because they would have more time to study.

**E (page 28)**

1. has borrowed OR has been borrowing
2. came
3. spoke OR were speaking
4. began
5. has become