

Writing Punctuation Practice

Writing levels offer ways to see a text differently in order to improve it.

The following two passages have had all the punctuation taken out. The goal is to re-punctuate the sentences. You'll need to retype the paragraphs, punctuating them in an acceptable manner. There is not always a "correct" answer, and some places can take different forms of punctuation. Just be sure you can justify your choices. You should NOT change any of the words or their order—each paragraph can be made comprehensible through punctuation alone. You will also need to capitalize words as appropriate.

the children made a lot of noise as they approached through the woods
were tramping through the woods they sang were tramping through the
fields their voices let us know they were coming so we built up the camp
fire and began to heat up the beans and sausages we knew they would be
hungry after the hike I waved as soon as the first boy who I think was
called daniel appeared through the trees quickly followed by four others
they looked bedraggled but happy I asked them if they had fun but they
all seemed too tired to reply soon frank jenkins appeared bringing up the
rear he beckoned to me and muttered solemnly in my ear Im afraid
theres been a problem

the charter school movement is not yet big just 11 states beginning with Minnesota in 1991 have passed laws permitting the creation of autonomous public schools like Northland a dozen more have similar laws in the works most states have restricted the number of these schools 100 in California 25 in Massachusetts in an attempt to appease teachers unions and other opponents nevertheless the charter movement is being heralded as the latest and best hope for a public education system that had failed to deliver for too many children and cannot compete internationally a handful of other places notably Baltimore Maryland and Hartford Connecticut are experimenting with a far more radical way to circumvent bureaucracy hiring a for profit company to run the schools