

## ELL VERB ENDINGS—IRREGULAR

In the following paragraphs, choose the version of the verb that best fits in the blanks below.

### Paragraph 1

A compact disk \_\_1\_\_ (**reproduce/reproduces**) sound very accurately and with little distortion. Because only light touches the disk, the system \_\_2\_\_ (**eliminates/eliminate**) the distortion caused by a needle moving through a groove. It also \_\_3\_\_ (**avoids/avoid**) the scratchy and clicking noises from imperfections and dust on a record.

### Paragraph 2

Parents are often \_\_1\_\_ (**confused/confuse**) by the divergence in personality and behavior that their own children display. They claim that their children were \_\_2\_\_ (**raise/raised**) similarly, and so they conclude that differences in personality and intelligence must be genetic. Perhaps responses to the environment are determined by those genetic differences in personality. For example, the family will be \_\_3\_\_ (**experience/experienced**) differently by a shy child than a gregarious one.

### Paragraph 3

Alexander Hamilton was one of the most influential of the United States' founding fathers. As the first secretary of the treasury, he \_\_1\_\_ (**place/placed**) the new nation on a firm financial footing, and although his advocacy of strong national government \_\_2\_\_ (**brought/brung**) him into bitter conflict with Thomas Jefferson and others, his political philosophy was ultimately to prevail in governmental development. Hamilton's own career was \_\_3\_\_ (**terminate/terminated**) prematurely when he was killed in a duel with Aaron Burr in 1804.

### Paragraph 4

Rome's most famous citizen was no doubt Julius Caesar. He was a Roman politician and general who, without having any orders to do so, \_\_1\_\_ (**conquered/conquer**) the vast territory of the Gauls to the north of his province in France. In the year 49 BC, Caesar crossed the small river between his province and Italy, called the river Rubicon, and took Rome itself, which he then ruled as a dictator. His military campaigns also took him to Egypt where he met the famous Cleopatra. His life, though, was ended as he was infamously \_\_2\_\_ (**murder/murdered**) in the

senate in Rome. So famous and respected was Caesar that a month of the year is still named after him and his heirs, July (after *Julius* Caesar). Also the great English poet Shakespeare \_\_3\_\_ (**wrote/write**) a famous play called *Julius Caesar* about the Roman leader's murder.

#### Paragraph 5

The most common perception of a volcano is of a conical mountain, \_\_1\_\_ (**spews/spewing**) lava and poisonous gases from a crater at its summit. This \_\_2\_\_ (**describes/describe**) just one of many types of volcano, and the features of volcanoes are much more \_\_3\_\_ (**complicate/complicated**). The structure and behavior of volcanoes \_\_4\_\_ (**depending/depends**) on a number of factors. Some volcanoes have rugged peaks formed by lava domes rather than a summit crater, whereas others present landscape features such as massive plateaus.

#### **ANSWERS**

| <b>Paragraph 1</b> | <b>Paragraph 2</b> | <b>Paragraph 3</b> | <b>Paragraph 4</b> | <b>Paragraph 5</b> |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. reproduces      | 1. confused        | 1. placed          | 1. conquered       | 1. spewing         |
| 2. eliminates      | 2. raised          | 2. brought         | 2. murdered        | 2. describes       |
| 3. avoids          | 3. experienced     | 3. terminated      | 3. wrote           | 3. complicated     |
|                    |                    |                    |                    | 4. depends         |

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