# C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\RedDot\TC_ELC_Logo.jpgVerb Shifts Worksheet D47

Directions: Correct the shifts in the following paragraphs by crossing out the incorrect word(s) and writing the correct word above.

**SHIFTS IN VOICE**

1. Norsemen and Northmen became "Normans" and so gave their name to Normandy. The Normans adapted readily to the variety of circumstances in which they found themselves, and fitted easily into the feudal hierarchy in France and Germany. In England the process of unification was catalyzed by them, while in Sicily they acted as mediators among the diverse groups who lived there. A Norman, Tancred, led the first Crusade during which Jerusalem was captured and the Norman kingdom was established in Syria. Though adept at migration, the assimilation of peoples, and the cementing of nations, the Normans had no talent or appetite for exploration. The Norse acquired a reputation as a "fast-breeding" people, and it was speculated by those they conquered that they practiced polygamy.
2. No quick formula exists for teachers to turn poor spellers into good ones. Students with serious spelling problems may need systematic instruction in spelling, for which, like with systematic instruction in vocabulary, time in a course can rarely be had. Students may be referred to a skills center on campus, or, if there are no such services, teachers may assign work from a good spelling workbook. There are, however, activities and assignments that students can be given to help them. Spelling can be improved markedly by most students if they learn and actually apply the limited number of standard rules, maintain a record of words that repeatedly cause them trouble, and faithfully practice brief groups of words from a spelling list.

**SHIFTS IN TENSE**

1. John was gazing out the window when he saw flames shooting up and dying down on the first floor of a nearby apartment building. Moments later the flames leap again, and John dials 911 to report a fire. Soon he sees three fire engines roaring down Center Street . There is great confusion because the fire fighters were unable to locate the fire. Soon they pounded on John's door, stomped in, and asked him to show them the fire, which was still shooting up and dying down in the same spot. The fire fighters finally find a man spraying lighter fluid into a charcoal grill in the middle of his living room.
2. Yesterday we sailed out of Provincetown harbor aboard the Dolphin IV and headed north toward Stellwagon Bank, a favorite feeding ground for whales. The thirty passengers are whale watchers who hope to glimpse the largest living mammals in their natural surroundings. After an hour, the first cry came: "Sighting off the starboard bow!" As the engines were cut, we rush to the right side of the boat. Twenty yards out, the dark bodies of two whales surface, blow their silver spouts, and sink out of sight. The guide said that these looked like humpback whales, an endangered species.

For long seconds, we held our breath, scanning the calm sea. Suddenly a whale rolls out of the water right beside the boat, sixty feet long, graceful as a dancer. We gasp with delight and a little fear as it lifts its huge tail out of the water and disappears under the boat. "Bravo!" shouted one of the passengers, and we break into applause.