

**Worksheet 3: Proofreading**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mark the prepositional phrases, the infinitives, the subjects, and the verbs in the following paragraph. Then proofread for missing commas and add them where they are needed.

**The Twentieth Century**

For American centenarians the last century produced incredibly rapid changes in the world and in their personal lives. They experienced the thrill of Orville and Wilbur Wright's first successful flight of a powered plane in 1903 and then the thrill of the Apollo 11 moon landing on July 20 1969. They lived through seventeen presidencies and World War I World War II the Korean War the Vietnam War and other military conflicts in the Middle East. Correspondence expanded from the United States Postal Service to UPS FedEx fax machines and Internet electronic mailing systems. In 1918 refrigerators replaced the old blocks of ice in the ice boxes. Home cooking changed with the introduction of frozen foods in 1923 by Clarence Birdseye and later by the invention of the microwave oven in the middle of the century. Within the century home entertainment shifted from the radio to small black and white television sets in 1926 to colored television in 1928 and now to big screen television hundreds of channels on satellite or cable systems video cassettes and DVDs (digital video disks). Electric typewriters word processors and complex computer systems replaced clunky typewriters. Within a few decades the inventions of synthetic materials such as plastic rubber nylon rayon and fiberglass changed lives dramatically. Consequently inventions and technology transformed the entire home environment from floor to ceiling. A plethora of changes evolved in the world of medicine. Penicillin vitamins laser surgery artificial organs DNA test-tube babies and animal cloning are a few of the mind-boggling medical developments from this last century. For the vast majority of younger Americans the changes between 1900 and 2000 are incomprehensible.