Correcting Pronouns In Context
Answer Key
Bolded words are the correct words.

One Kid, Many Votes

Campaigns Get a Boost From Workers Too Young to Cast Ballots

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Over the last month, Shane Grannum spent most of his free time working at a local campaign office, making calls to potential voters and looking at polling data to get ready for the Virginia primary.

Among the pack of political campaigners, Shane stands out; **he** is only 10 years old. He joined the Howard Dean campaign after watching Dean on TV. "I found **him** fascinating, so I started researching **him** more," Shane says.

Across the country, Shane and other children like **him** are starting to learn about politics by doing. Some tag along with their parents and then get into the political process. Others volunteer alone. All are hard at work, spending evenings and weekends encouraging people to vote.

Aside from learning about politics, these kids are valuable to the campaigns. In Oklahoma, many voters received a phone call from 10-year-old Alessandra Robinson. Together with her father, Alessandra hit the phones on weekends from a Milwaukee, Wisconsin, office, urging people to vote for Gen. Wesley Clark.

Friends Michael Costelloe, Jeff Pearson and Peter Davis, all 13, did the same for Howard Dean from a campaign office in Falls Church. Michael has a deep voice and says that people never ask **his** age. Peter says that sometimes people pick up on it, "But then they think **it's** cool."

Peter says he got interested in politics after overhearing his parents' discussions from the backseat of the car. His parents do not volunteer, but Peter started going to campaign headquarters for two hours after school and whenever **he** could on weekends.

In New Hampshire, 12-year-old Megan Williams worked 20 hours a week for the John F. Kerry campaign, making posters and going door-to-door for the candidate. She chose to support **him** after making a list of the candidates' policies and deciding Kerry's were the best for **her**.

The war in Iraq is her main concern; her father is in the National Guard and soon is scheduled to go to Iraq.

Kenton Ngo, another 12-year-old Kerry supporter, jokes that he learns more at the campaign office than at school. Kenton has volunteered for the D.C. office every Saturday afternoon for six months. But **he** says his friends think he is "a little crazy," for spending so much time with people three times his age.

Kelly Robinson, Alessandra's father, says he thinks learning about politics is a very important lesson. He says **he** wants his daughter to understand "that if you don't like the way things are run you've got to do something about it."

Kids such as Shane, Alessandra and Kenton are pretty unusual. In the 2000 election, only 36 percent of the eligible voters between 18 and 24 actually voted. (About 63 percent of those over 25 went to the polls, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.)

But these kids can't wait to be able to vote. Megan originally wanted to be a chef; now **her** ambition is to be a campaign manager. Peter wants to make political documentaries. Shane wants to be a senator, rather than an engineer. Kenton wants to be president one day.

And how does Shane feel now that Howard Dean has ended his campaign? "I feel kind of sad, but I'm going to continue working for the Dean campaign," he says. And Shane is sure about one thing: When 2008 rolls around, **he'll** be working on another presidential campaign.

-- *Jessica Carsen*