**Chapter Ten: Revising and Editing**

**Quiz**

**Editing and proofreading**

Below is an extract from a report that investigated the uses and value of alternative medicine. The extract contains these errors:

* Parallel structure
* Punctuation
* Fragment
* Subject-verb-pronoun agreement
* Inappropriate word choice

Edit the extract to correct these errors.

**Text**

Research in New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States suggest that significant numbers of people are involved with various forms of alternative medicine. A study conducted by the American Medical Association has developed some explanatory models that might account for these numbers. The study proposed and tested three hypotheses in order to explain the use of complementary or alternative (CAM) medicine. The study produced the following results.

First, patients are dissatisfied with conventional treatments, because it has been ineffective, it has produced adverse effects, or it is seen as impersonal, too technologically oriented, and/or too costly. Second, patients see CAM as less controlling than conventional medicine, CAM therapies may be seen as empowering, allowing patients to retain personal control over their health care decisions. Third, CAM may be seen as more appealing for patients, as it has the ability to adapt in order to become compatible with the patients’ values or belief systems, including worldview, spiritual/religious philosophy, or beliefs regarding the nature and meaning of nature and illness. Thus, producing a tailored treatment plan for each patient, a result which is never possible within mainstream medicine due to time constraints.

Using this background, we conducted a survey to identify social perceptions of CAM in X country. A questionnaire was sent to 500 randomly selected general practitioners with 400 completed questionnaires being returned. The questionnaire was produced with the aim to provide an overview of general practitioner’s attitudes toward and uses of CAM (see appendix). The results showed that acupuncture was most commonly perceived as beneficial, with 369 respondents rating it as moderately beneficial. Osteopathy was also rated by 319 respondents as moderately beneficial. Therapies that were rated as having no benefit by all respondents were reflexology and aromatherapy.

The survey showed that medical practitioners may refer patiens to CAM therapists for various reasons, notably:

* Patient request was the most common reason for referring patient to CAM.
* Followed by conventional treatment failure.
* Past positive experience.
* Patient belief and cultural needs was also mentioned as a reason for referral.

The survey also showed that the reasons that the majority of practitioners do not refer patients to CAM therapists include:

* Lack of evidence was the most popular reason medical practitioners’ did not refer patients to CAM.
* Following that was, lack of regulation of CAM.
* Financial cost was also referred to commonly. This is because, only a very small number of CAM therapies are currently funded by medical insurance.
* Other reasons included: concerns about exploitation of vulnerable patients and also risk of adverse effects or harm.

**Sentences and style**

1. Re-write the following sentence using specialist style, appropriate for a formal report:

We tried and tried, but we didn’t manage to persuade the council members to change their minds.

2. The following extract comes from a specialist report on the engineering of rockets. Re-write it using journalistic style aimed at the wider public:

An estimate of the reliability of solid rockets was made by the range safety officer, by studying the experience of all previous rocket flights. Out of a total of nearly 2,900 flights, 121 failed (1 in 25). This includes, however, what may be called, early errors, rockets flown for the first few times in which design errors are discovered and fixed. A more reasonable figure for the mature rockets might be 1 in 50.

3. Re-write this extract using the active voice:

In this study, the use of images was examined, and certain conclusions were drawn on how social media was used by companies for new events to be promoted.