

Parade Proofreading Party Answer Key

Corrected Passage:

Last night, my family **watched** the **Mardi Gras** parade in **New Orleans**. The streets were full of music, laughter, and bright lights. People from all over **shouted**, "Throw me something, Mister!" as colorful beads **flew** through the air. I **saw** the Royal **Krewe of Iris** float pass by first, followed by a marching band that played jazz so loud it made the ground shake. My brother **said** the drummers were his favorite part. After the parade, we **ate** king cake and danced until midnight. It was one of the most exciting nights I ever **had**.

Teacher's Guide

- **Before Reading:** Review key grammar rules for capitalization (proper nouns, holidays, and titles), punctuation (commas, quotations), and past-tense verbs.
- **During the Activity:**
 - Have students read the passage aloud to spot where the text sounds "off."
 - Encourage peer review by swapping papers to find more errors.
- **Differentiation:**
 - *Grades 4-5:* Focus on capitalization and punctuation only.
 - *Grades 6-8:* Require full rewriting of the passage and explanations for each correction.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Let students highlight corrections in **purple, green, and gold** to match Mardi Gras colors.
 - Play upbeat jazz music during the activity for atmosphere.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Have students write their own short Mardi Gras paragraph intentionally containing five errors, then exchange with a partner to edit.
 - Use this as a launch point for a mini-lesson on descriptive writing and grammar accuracy.