Verb Tense Consistency

*Directions: Choose the correct verb form to maintain consistent verb tense throughout each paragraph.*

One of the first women to take a pick and shovel into a coal mine was 18-year-old Linda Raisovich who**(a) has (b) had** just finished high school in West Virginia and **(a) comes (b) came** from a family of miners.

The year was 1976, and Raisovich was following in the footsteps of a few women who **(a) braved (b) had braved** the taunts and the ostracism of male miners. Many of the men who worked the mines**(a) believe (b) believed**that women**(a) bring (b) brought** bad luck into the shafts.

But she had her father's protection. He**(a) worked (b) was working** alongside her in her first years in the mines. Above ground, however, there were suspicions and rumors about the women who**(a) worked (b) work** alongside the men. Some miners' wives worried, Raisovich says, that their husbands**(a) being (b) were** too close to the women miners.

**(a) Having been (b) Being** accepted into the mines, the women were expected to take on all the tasks. For Raisovich, each year the work became a little easier. But she recalls that the "heavy lifting and carrying"**(a) remained (b) had remained** "most difficult."

The money in the mines was good, Raisovich recalls. In fact, it was too good, she**(a) says (b) said**, because it went to her head and "instead of saving money for college, I spent it all on clothes and sports cars."

By 1980, there were 3,000 women in the mines, and looking at their union, the United Mine Workers, these women **(a) begin to (b) began to** wonder about their representation. All were white males, Raisovich says. To have endured the difficulties of the early years of women in the mines and then not**(a) being (b) to be** represented in the union bothered many of the women.

These women knew that Raisovich had been active in the UMW and they**(a) urged (b) had urged** her to look into working for the union.

In 1980, Raisovich accepted a union job as the first female mine safety inspector and she **(a) remains (b) remained** the only woman in that job today.