



## ACT GRAMMAR AND USAGE PRACTICE DRILL II

The life of famed watchmaker Abraham-Louis Breguet was, from beginning to end (1747-1823). A<sup>1</sup> steady progression toward fame and fortune. Breguet soon revealed a lively interest that developed into a veritable passion for things mechanical in his stepfather's shop.<sup>2</sup> He studied with the famed jeweler Abbot Marie for twelve years, his vocation<sup>3</sup> was henceforth decided. Living in the Swiss cantons<sup>4</sup> on the French border, watch-making had already been developed on a large scale by refugee French families, because<sup>5</sup> it was limited almost exclusively to inexpensive products. Young Breguet, on the contrary, demonstrating very early a decided disgust for shoddy workmanship, as well as a genius for precision work, had an attitude he never lost.<sup>6</sup>

In 1802, Breguet receiving the gold medal at an exhibition of industrial products, sat at the table of the first consul.<sup>7</sup> Throughout his reign, Napoleon's interest in the works of the watch master, principally those of high precision, never slackened. The face studded with brilliant diamonds and rubies. Napoleon acquired Breguet's most ambitious creation the day after it was completed.<sup>8</sup>

The fall of the empire did not affect either his fortunes adversely or his renown, which had spread throughout Europe.<sup>9</sup> The exhibition of 1819 in which Breguet presented a collection of his most important works was a triumphant compendium of his life, by then more than seventy years old.<sup>10</sup>

### Biblical Integration Lesson

*In a debate with famed Atheist Richard Dawkins, Oxford professor and Christian, John Lennox eloquently compares God to a fine watchmaker. When Dawkins tries to explain that gravity is a natural force in nature pushing things onto the earth, not a God who uses his thumb to hold everything in place, Lennox uses the eloquent explanation of a watch that isn't controlled by a watchmaker who pushes the second hand around the dial. The creator is a brilliant designer who can create forces of nature such as gravity which helps everything run with precision – much like the intricate workings of a watch built by a master designer.*