

Understand

Look at these 10 dull sentences. After each one, improve it using any of the techniques from the box. Make sure you use each technique at least once – and you can use more than one for each sentence!

- Make better word choices.
- Start with a fronted adverbial.
- Extend your sentence by using a connective.
- Add detail by using other senses.
- Use an expanded noun phrase.
- Include adventurous punctuation.

Writing Techniques

Upskilling Sentences

1. Bill was tired.

2. Leonard jumped on the monster's back.

3. Bina saw the cake I wanted.

4. The dungeon door opened.

5. The wind blew our fence over.

6. The robot broke.

7. Jane sang in the competition.

8. The snake waited in the bushes.

9. I found a ten pound note on the floor.

10. The cake was made to look like a train.

Explain

Look at these pictures. Write a sentence for each one. Can you find eight different ways to make interesting sentences?

1. _____



2. _____

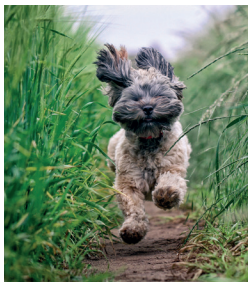


3. _____



4. _____





5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____

Test

Look at these pairs of text. In each one, the blue writing is an improved version of the green writing. After each pair, write how the blue sentences have improved on the green sentences.

The house had been empty for years.

The abandoned, derelict house at the end of the lane had been empty for years.

A gust of wind suddenly swept into the room and all was dark.

All of a sudden, a gust of wind swept into the room and all was dark.

As I moved forwards, I saw rotten food piled high on the table.

As I moved towards the table, the stench of rotten food was almost overpowering.

The angry animal looked angrily at me from the other side of the clearing.
The ferocious creature glared savagely at me from the other side of the clearing.

Frozen to the spot, I could only watch in terror as the door slowly opened.
Frozen to the spot, I could only watch in terror as the door slowly opened...

I frantically staggered backwards but the lion leapt and was suddenly upon me.
I frantically staggered backwards. The lion leapt. It was suddenly upon me.

I wanted to get home as soon as possible.
I wanted to get home as soon as possible because it had started to rain.

I had made too many mistakes. I was going to lose the game.
I had made too many mistakes; I was going to lose the game.

The tyre needed repairing. It had punctured on the broken glass.
The tyre, which had punctured on the broken glass, needed repairing.

Can you combine these sentences to make more interesting, longer ones? You could use conjunctions or punctuation.

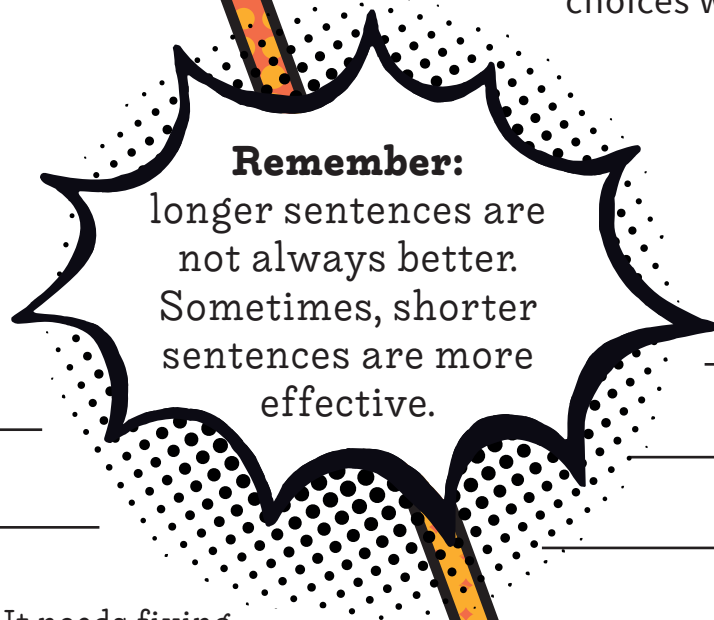
I need to practise for the test. It is tomorrow.

The lock on the back door is broken. It needs fixing.

The house has not changed. My grandfather grew up there.

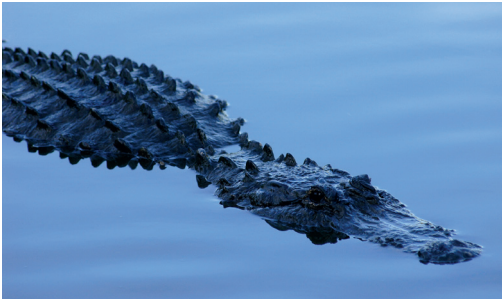
Read this text and rewrite it using a mixture of simple, compound and complex sentences. Make better word choices where you can.

I moved away from the door. I heard a noise. I turned around. There was a monster. I screamed. I could not move. It moved forward.



Challenge

Write two sentences about each of these pictures. Use your writing skills to create sentences as interesting as possible and impossible to improve.



1. _____

2. _____



1. _____

2. _____



1. _____

2. _____

Apply

What is happening here? Write a story based on this picture. Try to use a wide variety of techniques to keep your writing interesting.





Extra challenge:

Try to use
adventurous
punctuation in
your writing.
