

Style

Your writing should show variety in language and sentence length. Your voice and tone should be appropriate for the audience.

Questions to ask yourself:

- Did I use precise and descriptive language?
- Did I use variety in my word choice and sentence length?
- Is my expression clear and concise?

Avoid short, choppy sentences!

Use adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases to develop your simple sentences:

Example:

The child cried.

At the edge of the playground, the lonely child cried softly into her teddy bear.

You try it: The man laughed.

Avoid short, choppy sentences!

Combine details.

The dog barked. The mailman was frightened. He dropped the mail on the porch. He ran for his life.

When the dog barked, the frightened mailman dropped the mail on the porch and ran for his life.

Are there shorty, choppy sentences in your story that you could combine?

Use powerful and precise language!

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The man walked into the room and starting talking.

The teacher hurried into the classroom and started lecturing.

The police officer burst into the suspect's home and started interrogating.

The demon clown crept into the bedroom and started whispering.

You try it: My sister ate her dinner and left the table.

Be clear and concise!

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Avoid run-ons.

Fix it!

I don't want to do homework do you I didn't think so.

Be clear and concise!

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Don't overuse pronouns.

Which pronouns would you replace?

What nouns can replace these pronouns?

He ran into the street to grab the ball and it almost hit him. Luckily, his dad was watching, so he snatched him just before it struck.
