

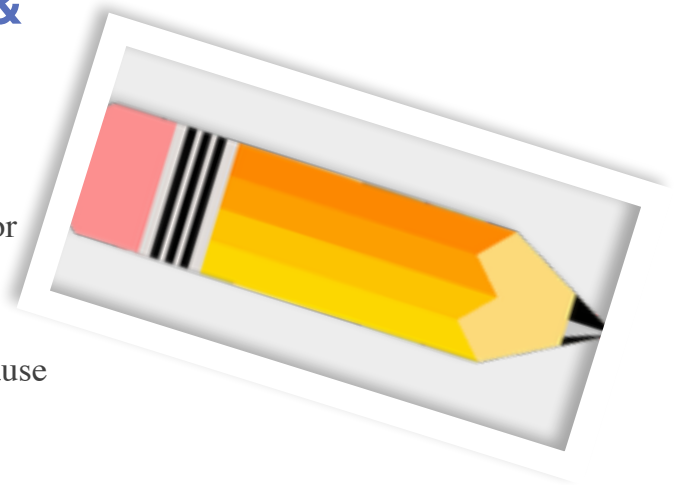


Sentence Variation

What is sentence variation & why do we need it?

Sentence variation is differing the use of the four major types of sentences in a written work:

- **Simple:** a sentence with one independent clause
- **Compound:** a sentence with multiple independent clauses (joined with either “;” or “conjunction”)
- **Complex:** a sentence with one independent clause and 1+ dependent clause(s)
- **Compound-Complex:** a sentence with multiple independent clauses and 1+ dependent clause(s)



Importance:

*Varying sentence types adds flavor to dull or repetitive writing! When experimenting with different sentence lengths, you can add drama and/or heavy emotion to your writing!

Handy tips and examples on



EXAMPLES:

- **Simple:** Disneyworld is one of the most magical places on Earth.
- **Compound:** The girl asked her parents for a puppy for Christmas; her parents bought a baby Golden Retriever and hid it until Christmas morning.
- **Complex:** When the tornado sirens went off, my family and I took shelter in our basement.
- **Compound-Complex:** Even though he prefers to eat with a fork, he chooses to use chopsticks in Chinese restaurants; however, they aren't easy to use.



Additional ways to vary sentences:

1. Begin a sentence with a prepositional phrase.
 - Example: During recess, the
- Begin a sentence with a present participial phrase.
 - Example: Falling from the clouds, the rain puddled in our

- Shorten and/or lengthen simple sentences for effect.
 - Example:
 - The dog darted into the busy street.

Vs.

- The unassuming dog darted into the busy street and onto the

***If you find you have any difficulty with sentence variation, ask any of the peer tutors for lesson explanations and/or activities and practice quizzes!**

