

Writing Interesting Sentences

To the teacher

It often seems that students are unable to write long, informative and interesting sentences properly. This is a very quick, introduction to some techniques to show students how to use various types of words to improve their sentences.

Here we are introducing only adjectives, prepositions showing location, and conjunctions to form compound sentences (formed from 2 independent clauses), but there is much more you can introduce — adverbs, prepositions that show time, conjunctions to form complex sentences (formed from 1 independent clause and 1 or more dependent clauses), verb tenses to describe time, and....

These activities are best done in small groups, with students doing individual work when writing, but working in groups for brainstorming, and perhaps, peer review.

1. Complete the sentences from the words below.

blouse sleeping hit ice cream London

The cat is _____ .

The man loves to eat _____ .

She didn't buy the _____ .

_____ is a city.

The girl _____ three home runs.



2. Brainstorm some adjectives.

black

dirty

big

3. Now, use the adjectives to make longer sentences.

The cat is sleeping.

The dirty, big, black cat is sleeping.

4. Brainstorm some prepositions.

on

near

after

5. Now, use the prepositions to make longer, more interesting sentences.

The dirty, big black cat is sleeping.

The dirty, big black cat is sleeping on the expensive, white leather sofa.

6. Brainstorm some conjunctions

so

until

and

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

7. Use the conjunctions to make even longer sentences.

The dirty, big ,black cat is sleeping on the expensive, white leather sofa.

The dirty, big black cat is sleeping on the expensive, white leather sofa, so the rich, old woman is crying.

8. Now write your own 20 word sentences.
