

Revision Worksheet

Name:	
Piece:	

Sentence Analysis

1. Complete the chart, recording information from ten consecutive sentences in your draft.

	SENTENCE BEGINNINGS First five words of each sentence	SENTENCE LENGTH Total # words in sentence
1st sentence		
2nd sentence		
3rd sentence		
4th sentence		
5th sentence		
6th sentence		
7th sentence		
8th sentence		
9th sentence		
10th sentence		

2. What patterns do you notice in your **sentence beginnings**?

3. What patterns do you notice in your **sentence length**?

4. How could you improve your **sentence variety** in this piece?

Sentence Starters

Try these sentence starters to help vary sentence beginnings.

- In _____, ...
Example: *In the morning*, her hair sticks out like a halo of golden curls.
- When _____, ...
Example: *When the sun sets*, hues of pink and purple hang over the mountaintop.
- Even though _____, ...
Example: *Even though she is on the Choctaw tribal role*, she has fair skin and freckles.
- As _____, ...
Example: *As a defensive linesman*, Patrick plows into opponents like a bull charging a matador.
- A _____, ...
An _____, ...
Example: *A soprano in the choir*, Elizabeth has no trouble hitting the high notes.
Example: *An island in the Gulf of Mexico*, South Padre's main street is lined with palm trees and beach-front properties.
- Along with _____, ...
Example: *Along with emerald earrings*, Zoe wears a chain around her neck with a golden cross.
- With _____, ...
Example: *With a brick fireplace in the corner*, the room stays warm and toasty on chilly winter nights.



Sentence Connectors

Try these sentence connectors to help combine sentences and vary sentence length.

- ..., and ...
Example: *The smell of the campfire fills the air, and fireflies light up the sky in the field beside us.*
- ..., so ...
Example: *Maya has skin like Snow White, so she slathers on sunscreen before she goes outside.*
- ..., but ...
Example: *Dad wears a suit and tie to work, but he prefers blue jeans and a ballcap on the weekend.*

Word Search

1. Note words from the piece that pop in the **Wow Words** column.
2. Note words that fizzle in the **Blah Words** column.

 Wow Words Words that pop or catch our attention	 Blah Words Words that fizzle – boring, empty, repeated, overused, vague words



Buried Words

Avoid vague, overused, repetitive language

a lot	quite
absolutely	rather
actually	really
basically	said
certainly	somehow
completely	somewhere
definitely	that
great	then
just	totally
literally	went
probably	very

3. How could you improve your **word choice** in this piece of writing?

Specific Nouns

Replace general nouns with specific nouns – more precise names for people, places, and things.

GENERAL	→	SPECIFIC	→	MORE SPECIFIC
dog	→	lapdog	→	Chihuahua
pants	→	jeans	→	Wranglers
tree	→	oak	→	California red oak
house	→	cabin	→	log cabin
shell	→	seashell	→	conch shell
fish	→	bass	→	largemouth bass
car	→	muscle car	→	1966 Ford Mustang
truck	→	pickup	→	2018 Dodge Ram
dessert	→	cake	→	angel food cake
phone	→	cellphone	→	Samsung Galaxy 9

Vivid Verbs

Replace dull verbs with vivid verbs that show action, avoiding passive voice whenever possible.

DULL	→	VIVID
went	→	wandered, approached, retreated
walked	→	strolled, paraded, skipped, hiked
ran	→	dashed, sprinted, jogged, bolted
drove	→	cruised, sailed, flew, fled, chased
put/set	→	arranged, scattered, planted, discarded
sat	→	perched, squatted, reclined, slumped
threw	→	hurled, tossed, flung, pitched, discarded
fell	→	collapsed, tumbled, tripped
gave	→	handed, presented, donated, provided
said	→	whispered, hollered, squealed, yelled

Title Tune-up

1. What title did you give this piece of writing?

2. How does this title draw in your reader?

3. How could you improve your **title** for this piece?

Revision Plan

Review this worksheet along with your draft and generate a list of **3-5 things you plan to revise for:**

Title Tune-Up (“U”)

Try these tricks to amp up your title:



- Make sure your title serves as a **catchy hook** that introduces the piece of writing in a creative way.
- Include **topic keywords** – the “what” of your piece (identifies concepts covered).
- Include **focus keywords** – the “where/when” (provides more information).
- Write your draft first and your title last.
- Add **alliteration** – repetition of the same initial consonant sound of each word – or a **rhyme**.
- Use **popular phrases** and **clichés** you can re-work.

Popular catchphrases make eye-catching titles too, especially when the phrase is amusing or creates an interesting pun. You can also tweak clichés – re-work and adapt them to the topic of your piece and title itself.

Examples:

- The Greatest Grandfather
- Alyssa, My Guitar Hero
- Our Cabin on Lake Catherine: Home Away from Home
- Standing Guard in the Back Yard
- Ben – A Boy’s Best Friend
- A Sooner State of Mind: Game Day at Owen Field
- Sami Smiles
- The Old Ball Game at Fenway Park
- Toes on the Turf: Field Five at South Lakes Soccer Club
- The Pumpkin Patch
- Lazy Days of Summer at Grandpappy Point
- Making a Splash at Turner Falls
- My Own Magic Treehouse
- Blowing Bubbles with My Baby Brother
- A Room of My Own