

The background features several large, stylized, overlapping swirls in light green, light blue, and light purple. Scattered throughout the background are numerous small, yellow, starburst-like shapes, some of which are larger and more prominent than others. The overall aesthetic is bright and celebratory.

# **Sentence Variety: Part 2**



# What is Sentence Variety?

- Sentence Variety means using assorted sentence patterns, lengths, and rhythms.
- Sentence Variety is what gives your writing better rhythm and flow; it makes your writing more mature.



# How do I use sentence variety?

## 1) Combine sentences.

- Don't use all simple sentences. This makes your writing choppy.
  - Choppy: We went to the movies. We went out eat. We came home. We went to bed.
- Combine independent and dependent clauses to create compound and complex sentences. Also, use transitions!
  - We went to the movies, and then we went out to eat. After that, we came home and went to bed.



## 2) Sub+if/when/after/because...+verb

- 1) Sara, when she finally managed to sleep, had a series of bad dreams.
- 2) The government, if recent reports can be trusted, has decided not to raise interest rates.
- 3) Mr. James, when he saw the police man, started running as fast as he could.



# How do I use sentence variety?

## 3) Begin sentences with an adverb.

- Luckily, I won the lottery last night.
- Unfortunately, no one passed the exam.
- Yesterday, we went to the zoo.

## 4) Begin sentences with a prepositional phrase.

- In the morning, I hope to feel better.
- At lunchtime, I'm going to meet some friends at Red Lobster.
- Under the desk, you'll find your notebook.



# How do I use sentence variety?

5) Join ideas using an –ing verb form.

– Two sentences:

- She was walking along the corridor.
- She listened to music.

– Combined:

– Walking along the corridor, she listened to music.



# ing- form

1) Hoping for an A, my exam grade disappointed me. (Is this right?)

Hoping for an A, I was disappointed by exam grade.

2) Ali was hurrying to catch a bus. He tripped and fell. (Begin with hurrying)

Hurrying to catch a bus, Ali tripped and fell.



# How do I use sentence variety?

## 6) Join ideas using an -ed verb form.

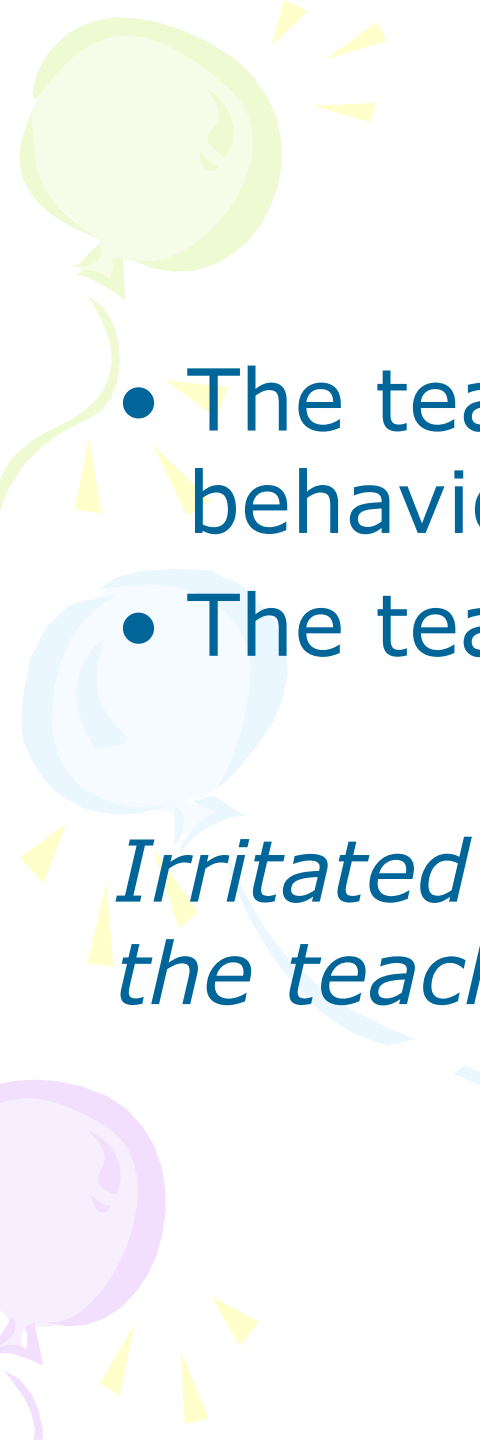
### – Two sentences:

- The student ran through the hall screaming.
- The student was amazed at his grade.

### – Combined:

- Amazed at his grade, the student ran through the hall screaming.



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- A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide featuring three balloons: a green one at the top, a light blue one in the middle, and a purple one at the bottom. Each balloon has a yellow streamer and several yellow triangular flags attached to it.
- The teacher got irritated by the behavior of students.
  - The teacher went out.

*Irritated by the behavior of students,  
the teacher went out.*



# How do I use sentence variety?

## 7) Join ideas using an appositive

- What is an appositive? An appositive is a noun phrase that renames a noun.
- Two sentences:
  - Ms. Bonnie helped me with my paper.
  - Ms. Bonnie is our class tutor.
- Combined:
  - Ms. Bonnie, our class tutor, helped me with my paper.



# How do I use sentence variety?

## 8) Join ideas using a relative clause.

- Review: What is relative clause? A relative clause is a group of words that begins with *who*, *which*, or *that*, has a subject & a verb, and modifies or describes a noun.
- Two sentences:
  - Ms. Bonnie helped me with my paper.
  - Ms. Bonnie is our class tutor.
- Combined:
  - Ms. Bonnie, who is our class tutor, helped me with my paper.



# Appositive vs. Relative Clause

- Two sentences:
  - The Simpsons is my favorite show.
  - The Simpsons comes on Sunday nights.
- Combined with an appositive:
  - The Simpsons, **my favorite show**, comes on Sunday nights.
- Combined with a relative clause:
  - The Simpsons, **which is my favorite show**, comes on Sunday nights.



# How do I use sentence variety?

9) Use different sentence types.

- Simple
- Compound
- Complex
- Compound complex