

V. Vary Verbs--be adventuresome

- a. tense--don't always write in present. Use full array of tenses, including compound tenses.
- b. voice--switch from active to passive (and passive substitutes)
- c. mood--use subjunctive as well as indicative
- d. use NEW verbs--not just quiero, creo, pienso, me gusta, etc. Use dictionary.

VI. Be more reflective, adventuresome in choice of subject matter. Don't just tell WHAT you did or believe, tell WHY you did it, WHAT YOU LEARNED, HOW it compares to previous experiences etc.

VII. Remember that you didn't learn to walk by standing still and also that you fell down a lot. So it is preferable to write some strange things that show you are trying to break into a trot than to maintain a safe but ample pace.

Practice in Sophisticating Your Sentences

Let's practice some of the techniques we've just studied.

1. Combine into one sentence:

Yo veo el gato.

El gato es blanco.

El gato camina solo.

2. Expand: Add information which is *not included* in the three short sentences above. (form one sentence)

3. Combine into one sentence:

Soy estudiante.

Vivo en Amherst.

Soy de Connecticut

Estudio en la Universidad de Massachussetts.

4. Expand: Add information which is *not included* in the four sentences above. (form one sentence)

5. Coordinating conjunctions:

a. Combine by using a conjunction:

Llegué a las tres. Encontré a mi amigo.

b. Write two original sentences using two different conjunctions.

6. Conjunctive adverbs:

a. combine by using a conjunctive adverb:

El español es difícil. Tengo que estudiarlo todos los días.

b. Write two original sentences using two different conjunctive adverbs.

7. Subordinate clauses

a. Relative clauses

1. Combine by creating a relative clause.

Tengo tres hermanos. Mis hermanos son menores que yo.

2. Write two original sentences with relative clauses.

b. Introductory clauses

1. Combine by using an introductory clause:

Estaba muy aburrida. Fui al cine. Me divertí mucho.

2 Write two original sentences using different introductory clauses.

8. Sentence patterns

a. Compound

1. Join these two sentences to form a compound sentence:

La profesora habla español muy bien. No la entiendo.

2 Write two original compound sentences.

b. Complex

1. Join these sentences into a complex sentence: Estoy enferma. Tomo aspirina.

2 Write two original complex sentences.

c. Compound-complex

1. join these sentences into a compound-complex sentence.

Tengo problemas graves con mi compañera de cuarto. He decidido hablar con ella. Creo que esto ayudara la situación.

2. Write two original compound-complex sentences.

9. Putting It All Together: See what you can do with the following sentences:

a. Mis hermanas viven en Nueva York. Trabajan para el Banco Nacional. Ellas comparten un apartamento.

b. Necesito mis libros. Debo estudiar. Tengo un examen.

c. Ayer encontré al jefe del departamento. El me habló de un problema. Todavía sigo pensando en este problema.

d. Now rewrite what you have written for a, b, and c above, but add new information to each sentence.