

SENTENCE ANALYSIS EXERCISE

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This exercise uses sentences taken from students' writing and is based on the REEP Rubric categories STRUCTURE and MECHANICS. Students and teacher edits these in small groups or whole class, in real time, ideally using an LCD Projector. Teacher may highlight errors in original by selecting/underlining/highlighting etc. Teacher gradually types in edited sentence and asks for a "rule" every time an edit is agreed up. Rules may be informally expressed, without teacher using academic jargon. See next page.

UNEDITED SENTENCE	EDITED SENTENCE	APPLIED RULES	SENTENCE TYPE & WHY
1. The main toping is to let people now that, They can save a lot of money and time, by transfering from a mayor community college.			
2. The story from the Boston Globe and it's about students pick community colleges and community colleges are really cheapre for people low income.			
3. Right now, several middle-class students are found that community colleges offer low tuition, more students transfer to smaller colleges and they are not lose the credits.			
4. The story is about students and college education. Students transfering credits from college to college much easear than in a past.			

<p>5. Students who cant afford a four year college can go to a too year college who is much more chipper and transfer there credits to a four year college and save thousands of dollars in proces.</p>			
<p>6. It's an article about a couple of people into colleges and about transfer records. Going into 2 year and 4 years colleges.</p>			
<p>7. I believe that this article explain's the high and lows of college and it's financial hardship.</p>			
<p>8. The role of the city councilor, I belive that one of thir main roles will be to represent the people of the city, another of their roles will be to make rules for the city and plays a role in the rules for the state.</p>			
<p>9. Let me start by saying that I have just three problems about the city councilor role. One, they need moore cop's in the street's.</p>			

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Here are actual samples of results achieved over several classes, with 15-20 minutes spent on this activity per class. This was a higher level class; examples from beginning level classes, e.g., would be much simpler.

UNEDITED SENTENCE	EDITED SENTENCE	APPLIED RULES	SENTENCE TYPE & WHY
1. The main toping is to let people now that, They can save a lot of money and time, by transferring from a mayor community college.	The main topic is to let people know that they can save a lot of money and time by transferring from a major community college.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ watch for misspelled words ▪ get rid of unnecessary punctuation (e.g. commas) ▪ rewrite so that meaning is clear 	id as simple, compound, complex, if time allows.
2. The story from the Boston Globe and it's about students pick community colleges and community colleges are really cheapre for people low income.	The story from The Boston Globe is about students picking community colleges and how they are really cheaper for low income.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ eliminate unnecessary words ▪ avoid redundancies (saying the same thing more than once) ▪ use pronouns for nouns to avoid repeating nouns (e.g. community colleges --> "they") 	
3. Right now, several middle-class students are found that community colleges offer low tuition, more students transfer to smaller colleges and they are not lose the credits.	Now, several middle-class students <u>are finding</u> out that community colleges offer low tuition, and more students <u>are transferring</u> to smaller colleges and not <u>losing</u> their credits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ avoid comma splices (e.g. use one of the "fanboy" conjunctions to join the clauses) ▪ eliminate unnecessary words ▪ make sure that verbs are in "parallel form"--i.e. if you start with "are finding" you should use "are transferring" later, rather than just "transfer" 	
4. The story is about students and college education. Students transfereing credits from college to college much easear than in a past.	The story is about college students transferring credits from one college to another more easily than in the past.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ avoid incomplete sentences (second clause, in this example) ▪ watch out for misspelled words ▪ be careful to use adverb form when describing actions (e.g. use "more easily" instead of "much easier" in this example) 	

<p>5. Students who cant afford a four year college can go to a too year college who is much more chipper and transfer there credits to a four year college and save thousands of dollars in proces.</p>	<p>Students who cannot afford a four-year college can go to a two-year college, which is much cheaper, and then transfer their credits to a four-year college and save thousands of dollars in the process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ be sure to use apostrophes with contractions (e.g. cant --> can't) ▪ careful with homonyms (too and two; there and their) ▪ rewrite to make sure meaning is clear ▪ watch out for missing articles (a, an, the) 	
<p>6. It's an article about a couple of people into colleges and about transfer records. Going into 2 year and 4 years colleges.</p>	<p>This article is about college students transferring credits from a two-year to a four-year college.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ eliminate unnecessary words ▪ rewrite to make sure meaning is clear ▪ avoid incomplete sentences (second clause, in this example) 	
<p>7. I believe that this article explain's the highs and lows of college and it's financial hardship.</p>	<p>I believe that this article explains the highs and lows of college, for example its financial hardship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ do not use apostrophes to make third person singular verbs (explain's --> explains) ▪ watch out for homonyms (it's and its) 	
<p>8. The role of the city councilor, I belive that one of thir main roles will be to represent the people of the city, another of their roles will be to make rules for the city and plays a role in the rules for the state.</p>	<p>I believe that one of the roles of the city council will be to represent the people of the city and to make rules for the city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ eliminate unnecessary words ▪ rewrite to make sure meaning is clear ▪ avoid comma splices--i.e. joining to independent clause with only a comma 	
<p>9. Let me start by saying that I have just three problems about the city councilor role. One, they need moore cop's in the street's.</p>	<p>Let me start by saying that I have only three problems concerning the city councilor role. One, they need more cops in the streets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ watch out for misspelled words (moore) ▪ do not use apostrophes to make plural nouns (cop's --> cops; street's --> streets) 	

REFLECTIVE LEARNING:

Students: Please go through the sentences we just corrected, and the grammar and mechanics rules we listed, and list which rules you already knew, didn't already know, and still don't understand (we'll use the last column as the basis for a class discussion.)

I ALREADY KNEW THIS	I DIDN'T ALREADY KNOW THIS	I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS