

Revising Sentences to Create Variety

DIRECTIONS Each of the sentences in the following paragraph begins with a subject. Underline a word or group of words that could be placed at the beginning of the sentence.

1. My brother has more fear than fun in the woods. He is always on the lookout for poison ivy because he is allergic to it. He also worries about snakes and spiders. He is fearful and tiptoes through the woods, scanning the underbrush. He walks very quickly most of the time. He misses the best part of the great outdoors because he is worried about all these things. He pays attention only to the sticks and dead leaves beneath his feet and ignores the colors, movement, and sounds of the woods.

DIRECTIONS Use what you have learned about varying sentence beginnings to revise the following paragraph. Reword some sentences so that they begin with phrases, clauses, or single-word modifiers. Some sentences may be reworded in several ways; choose the way that seems best.

2. It isn't very pleasant to walk in a heavy downpour. My sister and I recently found this out for ourselves. We left a basketball game at school one afternoon just as it began to rain. My sister's car ran out of gas on the way home. We trudged through the downpour to the nearest gas station. We returned to the car after we filled the gas can. We were both wet and grumpy, and we argued all the way home.

[illegible]

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Answer Key

Answer Keys:

(Answers will vary. Sample answers are given.)

1. My brother has more fear than fun in the woods. He is always on the lookout for poison ivy, because he is allergic to it. He also worries about snakes and spiders. He is fearful and tiptoes through the woods, scanning the underbrush. He walks very quickly most of the time. He misses the best part of the great outdoors because he is worried about all these things. He pays attention only to the sticks and dead leaves beneath his feet and ignores the colors, movement, and sounds of the woods.

2. Walking in a heavy downpour isn't very pleasant. Recently, my sister and I found this out for ourselves. We left a basketball game at school one afternoon just as it began to rain. On the way home, my sister's car ran out of gas. We trudged through the downpour to the nearest gas station. After we filled the gas can, we returned to the car. Wet and grumpy, we argued all the way home.