

Revising Wordy Sentences

DIRECTIONS Revise the following paragraph, eliminating wordiness to make it clearer and more effective.

- Eliminate wordiness.
- Add details if you wish.

When they think of the phenomenon of hypnotism, most people imagine and picture a stage show or
a television show that stars or features a flamboyant entertainer who invites and brings volunteer
people up onto the stage to perform a series of different hilarious actions. But actually, in reality, the
practice of hypnotism has been widely and generally accepted by the participants and members of
groups such as medical, dental, and psychological associations around the world. Nobody seems to
know for sure exactly how hypnotism actually works, but it seems to be based on the idea that there
is a thing called suggestibility. Subjects, to begin with, are first put into a state or condition of deep
and complete total relaxation, and then the hypnotist who is performing the hypnosis gives them
certain different suggestions. Results indicate that all of those subjects who respond appropriately
and in a fitting way to these suggestions are highly suggestible and may even be helped to avoid bad
habits, overcome fears, remember past events, and so on and so forth.



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Answer Key

Answer Keys:

(Answers will vary. Sample revised paragraphs are given.)

When they think of hypnotism, most people imagine a stage or television show with a flamboyant entertainer who brings volunteers onto the stage to perform hilarious actions. In reality, hypnotism has been widely accepted by medical, dental, and psychological associations around the world. Nobody knows just how hypnotism works, but it seems to be based on the idea of suggestibility. First, subjects are put into a state of deep relaxation, and then the hypnotist gives them suggestions. Results indicate that subjects who respond appropriately are highly suggestible and may even be helped to avoid bad habits, overcome fears, and remember past events.