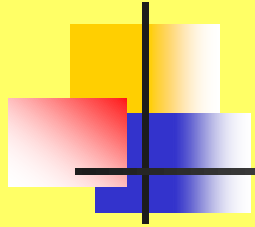


# BRUSH STROKES



From *Image  
Grammar* by  
Harry R.  
Noden

Compiled by:  
Rebecca  
Meuse Glass





# RESEARCH

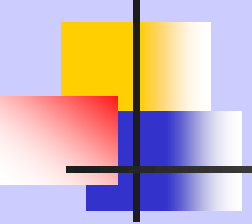
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**“Students often see revision, not as an opportunity to develop and improve a piece of writing, but as an indication that they have failed to do it right the first time.”**

**- Donald M. Murray**

**“Even high school students admit to little or no experience in revision. At best, they may recopy a paper.”**

**-Robert L. Hillerich**



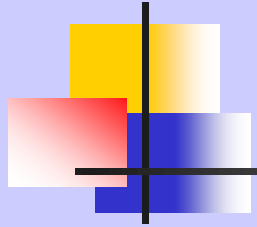
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**“Quick revising is a revision method for when the results don’t matter too much. It may be used for a clean draft for yourself, a possible draft for discussion, or a letter to a friend.”**

**- Peter Elbow**

**“Thorough Revising involves time, allowing the writer to visit and revisit the work, to be allowed to view the writing with fresh perspectives.”**

**- Peter Elbow**

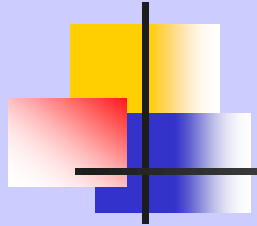


**“The writer is an artist, painting images of life with specific and identifiable brush strokes.”**

**-Harry Noden**

**“He began to see grammar as the process of creating art, it seemed unnatural to him not to view grammar as a continuous spectrum in a whole work.”**

**-Harry Noden**



---

**“Pictures are not made of flowers, guitars, people, surf or turf, but with irreducible elements of art: shapes, tones, directions, sizes, lines, textures, and color.”**

**- Frank Webb**

**“Writing is not constructed merely from experiences, information, characters, plots, but from fundamental artistic elements of grammar.”**

**- Harry Noden**



# ACTION VERBS

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**Go from passive voice to active voice by deleting the "BE" verbs.**





# EXAMPLES

---

**ORIGINAL SENTENCE:** The runaway horse was ridden into town by an old, white-whiskered rancher.

**NEW SENTENCE:** An old, white whiskered rancher rode the runaway horse into town.



# ANOTHER EXAMPLE

---

## ORIGINAL SENTENCE:

The gravel road was on the left side of the barn.

## NEW SENTENCE:

The gravel road **curled** around the left side of the barn.



# GUIDED PRACTICE



## **PAINT WITH ACTION VERBS:**

---

**THE SENTENCE: A snake is a slithering creature.**

**EXAMPLE: The creepy long snake slithered through the tall grass.**

-----

**STUDENTS' INITIAL SENTENCE:**

**A motorbike drove down the street.**

**STUDENTS' EXAMPLE:**

---



# BEGINNING PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

---

ORIGINAL SENTENCE: The girl waved good-bye to her mother's plane.

NEW SENTENCE: **With tears in her eyes,** the girl waved good-bye to her mother's plane.



# GUIDED PRACTICE

---

**PAINT WITH BEGINNING PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES:**

**EXAMPLE:** Through the tall yellow grass, the creepy snake slithered.

---

**STUDENTS' INITIAL SENTENCE:**

**A motorbike drove down the street.**

**STUDENTS' EXAMPLE:**

---

---

# PAINTING WITH PARTICIPLES

---



Imagine in your mind's eye, a football player running down a field.

Try adding an -ing verb at the beginning of the sentence.

# EXAMPLES:



**ORIGINAL SENTENCE:** The football player darted down the field.

**NEW SENTENCE:** Dodging the tackle and weaving through their defense, the football player darted down the field.

# **GUIDED PRACTICE**

## **PAINTING WITH PARTICIPLES**

---

**EXAMPLE: Crisscrossing and sliding, the creepy snake slithered through the tall grass.**

---

**STUDENTS' INITIAL SENTENCE:**

**A motorbike drove down the street.**

**STUDENTS' EXAMPLE:**

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---

# **PAINTING WITH SHIFTED ADJECTIVES**

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**Adjectives out of order often amplify the details of an image.**

**Professional writers often shift their adjectives rather than add them before a noun.**



# EXAMPLES OF SHIFTED ADJECTIVES

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## ORIGINAL SENTENCE:

**The usually active and energetic young boy struggled to reach the third floor landing.**

**Usually active and energetic, the young boy struggled to reach the third floor landing.**





# MORE EXAMPLES

---

## **ORIGINAL SENTENCE:**

**The trembling and frightened young pup scooted under the bed during the thunderstorm.**

## **NEW SENTENCE:**

**Trembling and frightened, the young pup scooted under the bed during the thunderstorm.**

# GUIDED PRACTICE

## PAINTING WITH SHIFTED ADJECTIVES

---

**EXAMPLE:** Creepy and slimy, the greenish black snake slithered through the tall grass.

---

**STUDENTS' INITIAL SENTENCE:**

**The motorbike drove down the street.**

**EXAMPLE:**

---

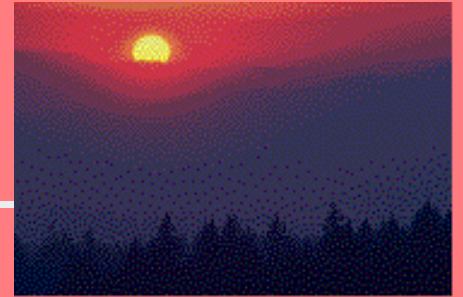
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# PAINTING WITH APPOSITIVES

---

**An appositive is a noun that adds additional information to a preceding noun. It provides a second image, expanding the details of the image.**

# EXAMPLES OF APPOSITIVES



**ORIGINAL SENTENCE:** The raft drifted slowly down the winding river.

**NEW SENTENCE:** The raft, a **skimpy wooden structure**, drifted slowly down the winding river.



# MORE EXAMPLES

---

## ORIGINAL SENTENCE:

The waterfall poured the fresh pure spray into the creek.

## NEW SENTENCE:

The waterfall, **a tilted pitcher**, poured the fresh, pure spray into the creek.

# **GUIDED PRACTICE**

## **PAINTING WITH APPOSITIVES**

---

**EXAMPLE:** A poisonous snake, the creepy rattler, slithered through the tall grass.

---

**STUDENTS' INITIAL SENTENCE:**

**A motorbike drove down the street.**

**EXAMPLE:**

---

---



# PAINTING WITH THE ABSOLUTE

---

***An absolute* is a noun combined with an –ing verb at the beginning of the sentence.**



# EXAMPLES

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## ORIGINAL SENTENCE:

The dog yawned silently.

## NEW SENTENCE:

**Paws curling, back stretching,** the dog yawned silently.



# GUIDED PRACTICE



## **PAINTING WITH ABSOLUTES**

---

**EXAMPLE:** Head rising, body slithering, the snake threatened the rat.

---

**STUDENTS' INITIAL SENTENCE:**

**The motorbike drove down the street.**

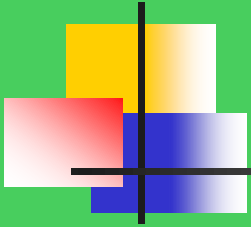
**EXAMPLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## *Brush Strokes Review*



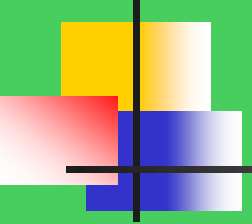
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**Action Verbs:** Go from passive voice to active voice by replacing the "Be" verbs.

**Beginning Prepositional Phrases:** The girl waved can change to, With tears in her eyes, the girl...

**Painting with Participles:** Add an ing verb at the beginning of the sentence

The football player darted can change to, Dodging the tackle and weaving through their defense, the football player....



**Shifted Adjectives:** The usually active and energetic young boy can be changed to Usually active and energetic, the young boy....

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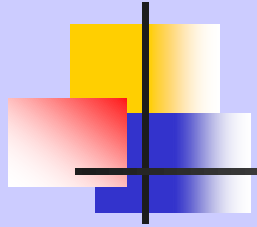
**Painting with Appositives:** a noun that adds additional information

The raft drifted can be changed to The raft, a skimpy wooden structure....

**Painting with the Absolute:** a noun combines with an -ing verb at the beginning of a sentence

The dog yawned can be changed to Paws curling, back stretching, the dog....

# REFERENCES



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