

25 people arrived for the ballet tryout armed with slippers, tutus, and unyielding ferocity.
Twenty-five people arrived for the ballet tryout armed with slippers, tutus, and unyielding ferocity.

Fix this: 12 clients scheduled an appointment for Friday. Sadly, none of them will wear tutus.

The Hyphen:

The hyphen is only used for compound words that are found in the dictionary or when two or more words function as an adjective.

I would be truly lost without self adhesive labels.
I would be truly lost without self-adhesive labels.

Fix these:

I went on a field-trip to Nothingness and returned with a heightened sense of self awareness.

PART 2: SYNTAX (ERRORS THAT AFFECT CLARITY)

Subject Verb Agreement:

In simple sentences, subject-verb disagreement is easy to identify, but when a client writes complex sentences, it may be more difficult to see that the subject and the verb disagree. Remember that verbs agree with their subjects in number and in person (first, second, third). A good way to teach these syntactical disagreements is to have the client underline the subject and the verb and expose the incongruity.

The unrestrained slaughter of dinosaurs for their beautiful hides have caused the dinosaur population to diminish.
The unrestrained slaughter of dinosaurs for their beautiful hides has caused the dinosaur population to diminish.

Fix this:

I have found that high levels of radioactive, alien toe fungus reduces the amount of cockroaches in my cellar.

Shifts in Point of ViewC /P (829(erb)8()-22(A)4)7(f)-10(s)in85 TmBT/F1 10 Tf1 0 0 1 159.58 483.65 TmW*n91245 nETQ36.025 4

1.5.18

I want to drum some statistics into your heads, which are concrete.
Rewrite: I want to drum some concrete statistics into your heads.

Fix these:

Speaking softly, the wind muffled his words.

Students only study on Sunday

1.5.18

The decision that the president announced after little deliberation w

1.5.18

Subordinating Elements

The key to varying sentences for better clarity of meaning lies in learning to use different subordinating elements.

Try using:

1. An absolute phrase (a word group that modifies a whole clause or sentence, usually consisting of a noun followed by a participle or participle phrase)
Example: He was known to have written, cigarette in mouth, for hours at a time.
2. An appositive phrase (a noun or noun phrase that renames a nearby noun or pronoun)

1.5.18

The sentences below are grammatically correct but stylistically awkward and unclear. Identify the weakness in each sentence. Rewrite the following sentences and describe the "moves" or strategies you used (e.g. "I found the main subject and verb and then modified the verb; or "I underlined all the repeated words and then decided which ones to keep").

1. Because the fluid, which was brown and poisonous, was dumped into the river, the company that was negligent had to shut down.
[Type Here:](#)
2. I love living in the city. I have a wonderful view of the entire city. I have a great apartment, and I can see the Golden Gate Bridge and many cargo ships pass under the bridge each day. I like the restaurants in San Francisco. I can find wonderful grub from just about every country. I don't like the traffic in the city.
[Type Here:](#)
3. At the meeting, there will be a report to the stockholders on the progress of the Company during the past year by the President.
[Type Here:](#)
4. The financial statements and related data presented elsewhere in this report have been prepared in