



11. SENTENCE VARIETY

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Author \_\_\_\_\_  
Example \_\_\_\_\_

12. VIVID VERBS, SPECIFIC NOUNS, and PICTORIAL ADJECTIVES

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Author \_\_\_\_\_  
Example \_\_\_\_\_

**Think About It!**

**Directions:** The teacher will give you five rectangles each of red, blue, green, yellow, white, and orange construction paper. On each rectangle write a specific word or phrase following these guidelines:

Red: Specific Character

Blue: Adjective

Green: General Object

Yellow: Specific Object

White: Abstract Noun

Orange: Setting

When you are finished with this task, put each five-card stack in the brown bag with the matching label.

**Examples:**

Specific Characters: a little girl w/a broken leg, a color-blind fashion designer, an angry princess

Adjectives: furry, gnarled

General Objects: mirror, hubcap

Specific Objects: soft-serve ice cream, a broken wicker chair

Abstract Nouns: loneliness, patriotic, shyness

Setting: a resort beach town, Seattle, Washington, a large East Coast city

**Create It!**

**Directions:** The teacher will choose which exercise you will complete. Follow the directions for that particular activity.

1. **Individual Story (150 points):**

- A. From each bag, without looking, select: 2 Specific Character, 2 General Object, 2 Specific Object, 2 Adjective cards, 1 Abstract Noun and 1 Setting card (10 cards total).
- B. Use these elements to begin a story (minimum: 1000 words). There is no maximum. Write until the story is finished.
- C. Before you start to write, choose the age level (children, young adult, adult) and the genre (general fiction, Romance, Science Fiction, Fantasy, Action/Adventure, Horror, Mystery, etc.).
- D. Time Frame: You will start this story in class (Day 1) and have the draft ready to peer critique on the third day after you began this activity. You will revise it and turn it in the next class day (four days, total). Some of you will be selected to read your stories aloud.

2. **Group Story (150 points per student)**

- A. The teacher will divide you into groups of three; each group chooses one Setting card; each person in the group selects one character, abstract noun, adjective, general object, and specific object card. Take three minutes to decide the story's who, what, where, when and why.
- B. Choose one person to start. When this person's time is up, he/she will pass the paper to the peer on his/her left. Each person writes for ten-fifteen minutes. Continue writing until you have reached the minimum word count. You may choose to continue the story until you all decide that it is finished. Once the writing starts, no one can talk.
- C. You will have 30-45 minutes each of three days to complete the first draft of the story.
- D. The fourth class day, each group will critique another group's story. When the pieces are returned, each writer will revise his/her sections. The typist will earn 10 extra credit points.
- E. The stories are due the next class (5 days total). Be prepared to read them.

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