**Sentence Pattern and Word Choice Revision**

Your product must demonstrate your ability to “use words, clauses, sentence patterns and knowledge of language to add variety and interest to informational/explanatory writing”

1. **Sentence Patterns**: The Sentence Pattern and Word Choice Analyzer will help you decide whether to vary the patterns and lengths of your sentences to “add variety and interest.” Varying the use of sentence beginnings naturally incorporates phrases and clauses, as well as other language forms.
   1. If you used between one and three patterns, you should try to re-write some sentences in a different way by selecting other beginnings.
   2. Below are examples for some different types of sentence beginnings. Use the patterns as models for re-writing your own sentences.
   3. Practice writing sentences on a separate sheet of paper until you get them right. Then transfer them into your draft, replacing your originals.

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| **Types of beginnings** | | **Examples** |
| 1. | Two adjectives | Poorly-fed, ill-equipped soldiers faced the winter… |
| 2. | Appositive | Dr. Albigence Waldo of Connecticut, a surgeon serving at Valley Forge, wrote about the Continental army’s misery… |
| 3. | Prepositional phrase | In the wet, cold weather, the poorly-fed and ill-equipped soldiers… |
| 4. | Gerund | Working with bleeding feet wrapped in cloth was the lot of Washington’s soldiers. |
| 5. | Past participle | Having worn through their shoes and thin clothing, the solders… |
| 6. | Predicate adjective | The soldiers were hungry, wet, and cold as they built their own mud shelters. |
| 7. | Adverbial clause | While they built their mud shelters, they had to fight off the diseases that were spreading due to the wet weather. |
| 8. | Adjective clause | Washington, who was accustomed to a life of wealth and relative ease, surprised and inspired his men by living in a tent among theirs while they worked on their shelters. |
| 9. | Noun clause | That von Steuben had an eccentric character did not undermine his effectiveness in training the Continental Army. |
| 10. | Parallel structure | A hard working man and a good-humored one, von Steuben… |

1. **Word Choice:**

* Replace verbs such as *get* and *said*.
* Increase your impact and effectiveness by using:
* Specific nouns rather than general nouns
* Precise adjectives and adverbs
* Sensory words
* Transition words and phrases
* Academic and content vocabulary