Sentence Syntax- 8th Grade Notes

# Types of Sentences

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| Declarative- Statement ending in period  Interrogative- Question ending in question mark  Imperative- command or directions  Exclamatory- conveys strong emotion; ends in exclamation mark |

# Expanding Short Sentences

You can use the following:

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| Appositive- A noun or series of nouns, placed next to another noun to rename or give more detail  Ex. Babe Ruth, **a baseball player**, is my favorite athlete. |
| Adjectives and Adverbs- Use descriptive words |
| Similes and Metaphors- use vivid descriptions  \*\* *Similes and metaphors are much more effective in descriptive writing. Try to use more similes and metaphors to convey your point.* |

# Sentence Combining

You can use the following:

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| 1. Use dependent and independent clauses:   Dependent Clause- incomplete sentence; begins with a subordinating conjunction (such as *although, meanwhile, because, when, during, after, however, therefore, etc.)*  Independent clause- complete sentence; can stand on its own.  Ex. The house is as orange as the golden sun. |
| 1. Use FANBOYS- remember the comma goes before the conjunction!   Ex. The house is orange**, but** the garage is purple. |

# Simplifying Sentences

You can do the following:

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| First, ask yourself what is the topic of the sentence. Next, what is the topic doing.  If there are multiple subjects and predicates (verbs) that are not connected, than separate into different sentences. |
| To separate sentences:   1. Use commas and conjunctions 2. Use semicolons (if sentences are so similar in topics that they could almost be in the same sentence. It’s like a weak sentence. 3. Use a period. |

# Using a Variety of Sentences

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| Begin your sentences with different openers.   1. With a Subject: The *cast* and *crew*  was very talented. 2. With a Modifier: *Sadly*, the girl’s cat was hit by the car. 3. With a Phrase: *Behind the curtain*, the actors took their places. 4. With a Clause: *After the movie was finished,* the boys went to eat cheeseburgers. |

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| Use a variety of types of sentences:   1. Simple- one subject/ one verb   Ex. The dog is on the bed.   1. Compound- 2 sentences with FANBOYS conjunction   Ex. The dog is on the bed, and the cat is on the couch.   1. Complex- dependent clause and independent clause   Ex. While the dog was sleeping on the bed, the cat was sleeping on the couch.   1. Compound- Complex- Made with 2 or more independent sentences and at least 1 dependent clause   Ex. Although I have never been to Disneyland, I have heard it is a fun place, but do not necessarily want to go this year. |