Sentence Style
Improve sentences

- Use parallelism
- Use balanced sentences
- Vary types of sentences
  - Coordination/subordination
- Add modifiers
Parallelism

• The new equipment added efficiency, comfort, and safety
Avoid faulty parallelism

• I like watching television, reading romances, and to play computer games.
• Our problems were social, political, and cost.
Use balanced sentences

• Coordinate structures with two clauses very alike.
• English teachers teach the rule, but they test the exception.
Vary types of sentence

• Simple
  • Computers help researchers access information.

• Compound
  • Computers help researchers access information, but internet sources are often suspect.

• Complex
  • While internet sources are often suspect, Computers help researchers access information
Coordination

• Creates compound sentences
• Gives clauses equal weight
• Makes sentences less choppy
Coordination

- **Two simple sentences:**
  - Ralphie received a BB gun for Christmas. His mother was very worried.

- **Compound**
  - Ralphie received a BB gun for Christmas, and his mother was very worried.
Subordination

- creates complex sentences
- Gives one clause more weight
- Can show differences of importance
- Makes ideas flow better
Subordination

- Ralphie received a BB gun for Christmas. His mother was very worried.
- Since Ralphie received a BB gun for Christmas, his mother was very worried.
- Ralphie, who received a BB gun for Christmas, worried his mother.
Add modifiers

- Our teacher presented his lecture.
- Our English teacher slowly presented his excruciatingly boring lecture on copulative verbs in a whining monotone.