

Cheat sheet Presentation Practice

Strong Sentences Cheat Sheet

Use this sheet as a reference when revisi

"Be" Verbs

Strategy 1: Re

Am
Is
Was
Were
Be
Been
Being

Strategy 2: Co

Adverb – Verb Phrases

Slowly walk: **saunter, stroll, trudge, pace**
Angrily look: **glare, frown, glower**
Softly spoke: **whisper, murmur, mutter**
Loudly yell: **shout, howl, yelp**
Quietly sit: **perch, rest, relax**
Happily shriek: **shriek, roar, squeal, bellow**

Prepositions and Prepositi

Preposition: a connector that links nouns t

Prepositional Phrase: a group of words cor
the object. A prepositional phrase gives inf

Preposition Example: Shelley walked to sc
Prepositio

about	among	below	Cor
above	around	beneath	i
across	at	between	i
after	beside	beyond	r
against	before	by	c
along	behind	down	c

Strong Sentences

Rewrite each sentence below using one or more of the strategies:

Remove and replace "BE" verbs
Use adverbs or replace adverbs with more specific verbs
Use a prepositional phrase

1. Liam was unhappy to hear that homework was being assigned on a Friday.
2. Richard was exhausted from a late night of video asleep in language arts class.
3. Marley wanted to sketch, but she had been caught
4. Elliyah could not wait for school to start because and was excited about her reward.
5. Carlos had been waiting all day for lunch because

"Be" Verbs

Locate and highlight as many of the "be" verbs (listed to the right) in your rough draft as you can find.

"Be" verbs are weak and should not be overused; however, using "be" verbs can be necessary.

- Am
- Is
- Are
- Was
- Were
- Be
- Being
- Been

WRITING

Strong Sentences

USING VERBS



INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Teacher Instructions for Use

1. Print the notes for teaching "be" verbs and adverb-verb phrases.
2. Use the presentation to have students take and annotate notes and introduce "be" verbs and adverb-verb phrases.
3. The presentation has revision built-in. Two slides prompt students to identify all "be" verbs in writing and then revise, as well as adverb-verb phrases. You may or may not have the students revise.
4. Have students keep the notes in their binder or fold and glue them into notebooks.
5. Cheat sheet notes for prepositional phrases have been included; however, the presentation does not include information on prepositional phrases.

****Note:** This assignment is often used when revising narrative writing.

CCRSS Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.1.E

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.3.A

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.7.3.A

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.8.3.A

Name _____
Date _____

Strong Sentences Cheat Sheet

Use this sheet as a reference when revising and editing your writing for stronger sentences.

"Be" Verbs

Am
Is
Was
Were
Be
Been
Being

Strategy 1: Replace "be" verb with an active verb AND details.

Example: The child **was** happy.
Ecstatic about a snow day, Harrison jumped up and down.

Strategy 2: Combine sentences to remove "be" verbs.

Example: Melissa **was** upset that she could not run in the track meet. She practiced every day.

Devastated by the news that she could not run in the track meet, Melissa cried because she practiced every day.

Adverb – Verb Phrases

Slowly walk: **saunter, stroll, trudge, pace**
Angrily look: **glare, frown, glower**
Softly spoke: **whisper, murmur, mutter**
Loudly yell: **shout, howl, yelp,**
Quietly sit: **perch, rest, relax**
Happily shriek: **shriek, roar, squeal, bellow**

Adverb-verb phrases: using phrases such as:
slowly (**adverb**) walked (**verb**)
can be powerful.

Howe
specif

Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

Preposition: a connector that links nouns (and pronouns)

Prepositional Phrase: a group of words consisting of a preposition and the object. A prepositional phrase gives information.

Preposition Example: Shelley walked to school.

Prepositional Phrase

Common Prepositions

about	among	below	in	on
above	around	beneath	inside	on
across	at	between	into	on
after	beside	beyond	near	on
against	before	by	of	on
along	behind	down	off	th

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CHEAT SHEET

NOTES &

PRACTICE

Name _____
Date _____

Strong Sentences

Rewrite each sentence below using one or more of the strategies:

Remove and replace "BE" verbs
Use adverbs or replace adverbs with more specific verbs
Use a prepositional phrase

1. Liam was unhappy to hear that homework was being assigned on a Friday.
2. Richard was exhausted from a late night of video games with friends, and he was trying not to fall asleep in language arts class.
3. Marley wanted to sketch, but she had been caught drawing silly pictures of her teachers
4. Elliyah could not wait for school to start because she was being honored for her mathematical abilities and was excited about her reward.
5. Carlos had been waiting all day for lunch because he was sure it was ice cream day.

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Change "be" verbs to "stronger" verbs

Example sentence that uses a
"be" verb (passive voice):

- Evelyn **is** afraid of snake
- Evelyn **is** afraid
- Evelyn **is** of snake

Example sentence not using a
"be" verb (active voice):

- Evelyn **fears**

Revision Work

1. Revise as many "be" verbs as you can using the TWO strategies in this presentation

* Replace "be" verbs with action verbs to

* "Be" Verbs

2. "Be" the real

Locate and highlight as many of the "be" verbs (listed to the right) in your rough draft as you can find.

"Be" verbs are weak and should not be overused; however, using "be" verbs can be necessary.

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- Be
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- Been

PRESENTATION

Notes & Practice for Student's Writing

Using Adverb-Verb Phrases

Verbs are stronger than Adverbs

Adverb-Verb Phrases

- slowly walked
- angrily looked
- softly spoke
- happily sang
- loudly yelled
- quietly said

Replacing Adverb-Verb Phrases

- stroll, saunter, trudge
- glare, frown, glower
- whisper, mutter, shout

Revision Work

1. Locate and circle the adverbs in your narrative.
2. Locate and underline the verbs each adverb modifies (describes) in your narrative.
3. Replace as many adverb-verb phrases with strong verbs that provide the same description.



MORE NOTES AND PRACTICE