

## 1. Choose vivid and precise nouns, verbs, and adjectives.

Before: We ate the delicious cake.

Revised: We savored the gooey, warm, velvety chocolate torte.

## 2. Vary sentence structure and length.

Before: We walked through the woods. We saw a bear. We were terrified. We stood frozen. The bear wandered away.

Revised: During our walk through the woods, we saw a bear. We were terrified! We stood, frozen in place, until the bear finally wandered away.

## 3. Avoid passive language.

Before: The fish was eaten by the seagull.

Revised: The ravenous seagull devoured the silvery fish.

## 4. Be concise! Less is more!

Before: It is a true fact that otters are some of the cleverest creatures in the world due to the fact that they are known to fashion and use tools.

Revised: Otters fashion and use tools, making them some of the cleverest creatures in the world.

## 5. Hook your reader.

Before: Animals have different kinds of tongues. They use their tongues in different ways.

Revised: Did you know that a chameleon's tongue is longer than its whole body? Have you heard that a blue whale's tongue weighs more than an Asian elephant? Animals have an amazing variety of tongues, which help them in different ways.