

# Making sentences more interesting ....

## A “Choppy” Sentences ....

Edit the choppy sentences below into one or two sentences so they are more interesting to read.

1. Vegetables are good for you. Vegetables taste good. Vegetables are easy to prepare.
2. I like movies. I go to movies every weekend. I like action movies best.
3. Elephants are big. They live in Africa and Asia. They eat a lot of food.
4. Phil is a thrill seeker. He enjoys skydiving and bungee jumping. He goes every chance he gets.
5. I hate housework. Housework is very boring. It takes too much time. I especially dislike mopping the floor and ironing.

## B “Stringy” sentences

Some beginning writers have a tendency to write and write, producing very long sentences which consist of too many independent clauses which are connected with and, but, or because. These sentences are many times the result of writing the same way as we speak.

These types of sentences can also be difficult to comprehend and are tiresome to read. There is no hard and fast rule for the number of independent clauses in a sentence, but a good of thumb is two. Stringy sentences can be corrected by making separate sentences of some of the independent clauses and re-writing others to make them compound or complex sentences.

Look at this example of a “stringy” sentence:

*Taking a bath everyday is very important for personal sentence hygiene because if a person doesn't bathe everyday they could become sick and they would start to smell really bad and people would give them very funny looks and not want to be around them.*

**Suggested correction:** *Taking a bath every day is important for personal hygiene. If a person doesn't bath everyday they could become sick. In additional, they would begin to smell; people would give them funny looks and avoid them.*

Rewrite the following stringy sentences into more appropriate ones.

1. I have made it a point throughout my life to try to save at least a part of my monthly income and put it into a savings account because I want to have a large nest egg to retire on, and I try never to give into the impulse of dipping into it because I would regret it in the future.
2. Halloween was always a very special holiday for me when I was a child because I got to dress up in a costume and went allover the neighbourhood and got candy from all my neighbours, but I never got sick eating all that candy at one time because my mother made me put most of it away and I was only able to eat a little bit of it everyday, but it lasted a lot longer that way.
3. When I was in high school I was in the marching band and it was great because we got to get into all the football and basketball games free, but most of the other students had to pay to get in, but we also had to march in all the parades that the city held during the year, which was okay during the winter months but during the summer it was very hot so it was hard.