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# Writing Reminders

# Prepositional Phrases

- In that case, we would never know the truth.
- During the 1960s, there was much civil strife in America.
- No matter what she says, it makes no sense.

# Prepositional Phrase Practice

- Even though I didn't like the idea I went along with it.
- After his first year in college Tom dropped out.
- Despite the lack of evidence the jury convicted him.

# Prepositional Phrase Practice

- In fact many studies show that...
- In fact, many studies show that...
- During the time that she was away Mary changed a lot.
- During the time that she was away, Mary changed a lot.
- (Mary changed a lot while she was away)

# Prepositional Phrases

- Within six years Eric rose to a managerial position...
- Within six years, Eric rose to a managerial position...
- Eric rose to a managerial position within six years.

# Person

- In many cases when **the student** is the first in **their** family to attend college, **they** are looked on as the head of the family.
- In many cases when **students** are the first in **their** family to attend college, **they** are looked on as the head of the family.
- **Students** who are the first ones from their family to attend college are often looked on as the head of the family.

# Practice

- A student who thinks that they are going to fail probably will.
- A student who thinks that he is going to fail probably will.
- Students who think that they are going to fail probably will.

# Practice

- When a person makes a tough decision like that, they often need to think about it.
- When a person makes a tough decision like that, he often needs to think about it.
- When a person makes a tough decision like that, she often needs to think about it.
- When people make tough decisions like that, they often need to think about them.

# Nominalization

- People can gain many benefits from this therapy.
- People can benefit from this therapy.
- The archeologists made discoveries of ancient manuscripts.
- The archeologists discovered ancient manuscripts.
- We are in agreement with your position.
- We agree with your position.

# Wordiness

- It is possible to qualify for a numerous amount of aid for college to pay for your entire course related material, yet some students still drop out.
- **BETTER:** Some students drop out even though there is much financial aid available.

# Wordiness

- Unfortunately, my mother's story is another common example of many people.
- **BETTER:** Unfortunately, my mother's story is common.

# Wordiness

- Many students in college drop out for a variety of reasons.
- **BETTER:** College students drop out for many reasons.

# "You"

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- Don't write to "you".

# Connect the facts

- Every year, hundreds of prisoners on death row appeal their cases. Appeals cost states millions of dollars.
- Every year, hundreds of prisoners on death row appeal their cases. *These appeals* cost states millions of dollars.

# Example

- Many people drop out of school because of family and personal responsibilities. Teachers often assume that dropouts are bad people. It is understandable that people have responsibilities.

# Example with Tansitions

- Many people drop out of school because of family and personal responsibilities. Teachers often assume that *these* dropouts are bad people. *However, teachers should understand* that people have responsibilities *that may be more important than school.*

# Example

- Anthropology is a boring and unnecessary class. NY State College should eliminate it.
- NY State College should eliminate Anthropology *because* it is boring and unnecessary.

# Transition Sentences

- Students can solve the problems they face. Anyone can go to college. Students need to put in time to get into college. If they say they have no money, there is aid. Students can receive loans, grants, and scholarships to help pay. Students can't be lazy to receive aid. They have to work for it and apply. If they are lazy, they will need to change their attitudes. There are ways to get into college.

# Transition Sentences

- **However**, students can solve these problems. **In fact**, anyone can go to college if he puts in the necessary time. If money is a problem, loans, grants and scholarships are available. **However**, students must work at applying for them. [Data or quotes needed here]. **Obviously**, there are ways for everyone to attend college.

# Practice

- Death-X and Shoot-To-Kill are rated “Mature” due to violence. Media violence has increased dramatically because of video games.
- Death-X and Shoot-To-Kill are rated “Mature” due to violence. *Games like these* have increased media violence dramatically.
- Media violence has increased dramatically because of “Mature” games like Death-X and Shoot-To-Kill.

# Practice

- There is more violence on television these days than ever. Many people think that it causes violent behavior.
- ***Because*** there is more violence on television these days than ever, many people think that it causes violent behavior.

# Practice

- Congress voted to enact laws to reduce violence on television. We have to take this idea seriously.
- Congress voted to enact laws to reduce violence on television. Therefore, we have to take this idea seriously.
- Because Congress voted to enact laws to reduce violence on television, we have to take this idea seriously

# Professional Words

- Went by = passed
- Got to = arrived
- Did well = succeeded
- Said to him = replied
- Got rid of = eliminated
- Looked into = investigated
- Didn't have enough = lacked
- Knew something was up = suspected