

22.3**Varying Your Sentences (Expanding Short Sentences, Shortening Long Sentences) • Practice 1**

Expanding Short Sentences Short sentences can be expanded by adding details that develop the subject, verb, or complement.

Short Sentences	Expanded Sentences
The woman addressed the convention.	The woman, <i>a lawyer from Chicago</i> , addressed the convention.
The delegates applauded her remarks.	The delegates <i>loudly and enthusiastically</i> applauded her remarks.
She nominated a candidate.	She nominated a <i>popular presidential</i> candidate <i>from her home state</i> .

Shortening Long Sentences Long, involved sentences can be broken into shorter, simpler sentences.

Long, Involved Sentence	Shorter, Clearer Sentences
The puppy, which was a honey-colored cocker spaniel, was frisky and loved to romp around the living room, which caused problems such as a broken antique vase, tears in the slipcovers, and scratches on the table legs.	The frisky puppy, a honey-colored cocker spaniel, loved to romp around the living room. The results included a broken antique vase, tears in the slipcovers, and scratches on the table legs.

Exercise 1 Adding Details to Short Sentences. Add details to improve each sentence.

EXAMPLE: Len had but one dream.

Len had but one dream, to win the marathon.

1. That plant has magnificent flowers.

2. The same menu is served every New Year's Eve.

3. The athletes prepared well.

4. The story aroused her curiosity.

5. They learned more about chess.

Exercise 2 Shortening Sentences. Divide each long sentence into two or more sentences.

1. A whole group of us had arranged to work together on a huge banner which we would carry to the pep rally, but it didn't take long for us to begin to disagree about how to design it.

2. Having rehearsed several weeks both in the classroom and on the stage, we felt quite confident when the day of the dress rehearsal finally came and were firmly convinced that all would go well.
