

# Varying Sentence Structure

L.11-12.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking

L.11-12.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

# Objective

- I can vary my sentence structure by using prepositional phrases and verb phrases as sentence openings.

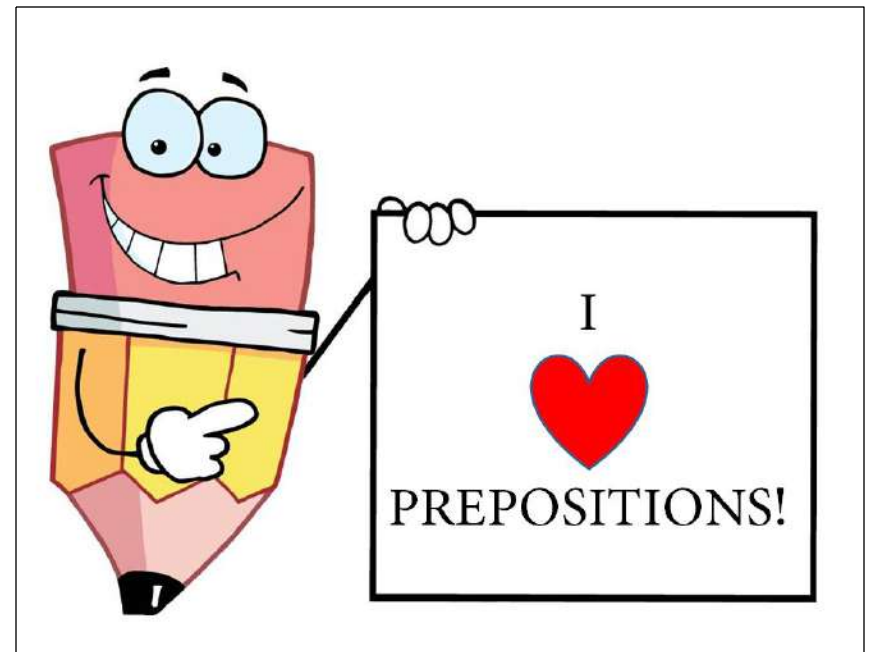
# Prepositional Phrases to Begin Sentences

- A yellow light shone from the window.
- *From the window*, a yellow light shone.

# What are prepositional phrases?

- Prepositions are the words that indicate location. Usually, prepositions show this location in the physical world. Check out the three examples below:
- The puppy is ***on*** the floor.
- The puppy is ***in*** the trash can.
- The puppy is ***beside*** the phone.
- ***On, in,*** and ***beside*** are all prepositions.
- They are showing ***where*** the puppy is.
- Prepositions can also show location in ***time***.

- Read the next three examples:
- ***At midnight***, Jill craved mashed potatoes with grape jelly.
- ***In the spring***, I always vow to plant tomatoes but end up buying them at the supermarket.
- ***During the marathon***, Iggy's legs complained with sharp pains shooting up his thighs.



# Handout: 2 Beginning Sentences with Prepositional Phrases

- Write out each sentence. I will not give credit for arrows or shorthand.
- Rearrange each sentence to begin with a prepositional phrase.
- Example: 1. On a page of the calendar, Anna made a note of the appointment.

# Objective

- I can vary my sentence structure by compressing one sentence into an –ing or –ed/-en introductory verb phrase.

# Verbal Phrases to Begin Sentences

- In continuing our discussion about varying sentence structure, we are going to discuss verbal phrases that can begin sentences.
- Verbal Phrases:
  - Begins with –ing, -ed/-en



# Introductory Phrases

- Two sentences can be compressed by converting one sentence into an –ing or –ed/ -en introductory phrase.

# 3 Using –ING Phrases

- Write the two sentences as one by making one sentence a –ing verb phrase.
- Example: 1. Swerving dangerously on the wet pavement, the blue van sped past at a high rate of speed.

## 4 Using –ED Phrases

- Write two sentences as one sentence by converting one sentence into an –ed verbal phrase.
- Example: Impressed by the candidate's credentials, the interviewer decided to offer him a job.