

Sentence workshop

A 10-minute writing activity for primary teachers and pupils. Improve one sentence for a reader, then explain your choices. Use the example or choose a sentence from your own story.

Starting sentence: The dog went into the garden.

1. Choose a more precise verb

How did the dog move? Replace "went" with a word that fits your idea.
Try: raced, wandered or crept. Say the sentence before writing it.

2. Add one useful detail

Choose a detail that helps your reader picture the moment.
Where exactly, when, or why? You do not need all three.
Example: The dog crept into the garden to find its missing ball.

3. Read it as a reader

Read your sentence aloud. Does it make sense? Check the capital letter and end punctuation. Change anything that makes your idea unclear.
My final sentence:

4. Explain one choice

I chose _____ because _____.

Teacher prompt: compare the versions and discuss the effect on the reader. More words do not always make better writing. Model orally if needed; extend by changing the mood while keeping the same event.
