

## **A Synopsis of Writing an Effective Sentence**

A good academic writer can transform a mediocre sentence into a masterpiece:

### ***Use active voice.***

Passive voice: The research paper was written by the student.

Active voice: The student wrote the research paper.

This active voice sentence is more direct and concise, conveying a clear message to the reader.

### ***Use strong verbs.***

Instead of "The student wrote the research paper," one could write, "The diligent student meticulously composed the well-researched paper."

The use of strong verbs can further enhance the sentence.

### ***Variate in sentence structure.***

Instead of writing only short, simple sentences, one can add longer, more complex sentences to the mix, e.g. "In spite of the numerous challenges faced during the research process, the student persevered and produced a compelling and informative research paper."

Variations in sentence structure can also add depth and interest to the writing.

### ***Parallel structure, when used correctly, can provide balance and rhythm to the sentence.***

"The student analyzed the data, interpreted the findings, and presented the results in a clear and concise manner."

### ***Use correct punctuation***

"The student was confident, yet nervous; excited, yet apprehensive, as he presented his research findings."

Correct punctuation is vital in academic writing as it clarifies the intended message.

### ***The last word in a sentence should be the key to open the next sentence.***

Sentence 1: The results of the study were inconclusive. Sentence 2: Nevertheless, they provided important insights into the research question.

The last word in the first sentence is "inconclusive," which sets up the contrast in the second sentence with the word "nevertheless." The second sentence builds on the information from the first sentence by acknowledging the limitations of the study while emphasizing its value in providing insights.

By using the last word of a sentence as the key to open the next sentence, a writer can create a smooth and logical flow of ideas that engages the reader and strengthens the overall message.