

ELA Virtual Learning

# A.P. English Lit. and Comp.

April 20, 2020

Lesson: April 20, 2020

**Objective/Learning Target:**

**Students will be able to create a specific claim or thesis using descriptive, formal vocabulary.**

# Success Starter

**Directions:** On a sheet of paper, write down the following adjectives and look up 3 synonyms for each adjective using the thesaurus link below.

**Adjectives:**

Confused

Happy

Sad

Angry

Loved

Link: [Thesaurus](#)

# Improving Written Vocabulary

Today, you are going to learn about improving the vocabulary in your writing. This will help you write in a more specific and detailed manner.

For this activity, you will need a piece of writing you have written for your A.P. Literature class. You will work on this piece after completing Practice #1.

Watch this funny Friends video about what you should NOT sound like with a better written vocabulary- watch for a laugh until 1:14. [Video: You are NOT a Human Thesaurus](#)

# Practice #1

**Directions:** Write down on your sheet of paper beneath your success starter, the following numbered sentences. After you write down the sentences, watch the video below, and follow her instructions when modifying and revising each.

**VIDEO:** [Improving Your Written Vocabulary](#)

1. Toni Morrison's use of diction in *Recitatif* explains how confusing life was for Twyla and Roberta growing up.
2. In "We Real Cool", Gwendolyn Brooks' structure and diction does a good job of making the writing entertaining for readers.

# Practice Example Sample 1

The color- coding on these next two slides shows you what part of each sentence was modified and its new wording. Your answers may vary from these examples- and that's okay.

Original: Toni Morrison's use of **diction** in Recitatif **explains** how **confusing life** was for Twyla and Roberta **growing up**.

Revised: Toni Morrison's use of **mixed metaphor** **illustrates** the **socially complicated childhood** Twyla and Roberta **survived**.

# Practice Example Sample 2

**Original:** In “We Real Cool”, Gwendolyn Brooks’ **structure** and **diction** **does a good job** of making the writing entertaining for readers.

**Revised:** In “We Real Cool”, Gwendolyn Brooks’ use of **enjambment** and **allusion** **invites** the readers into this “cool” life.

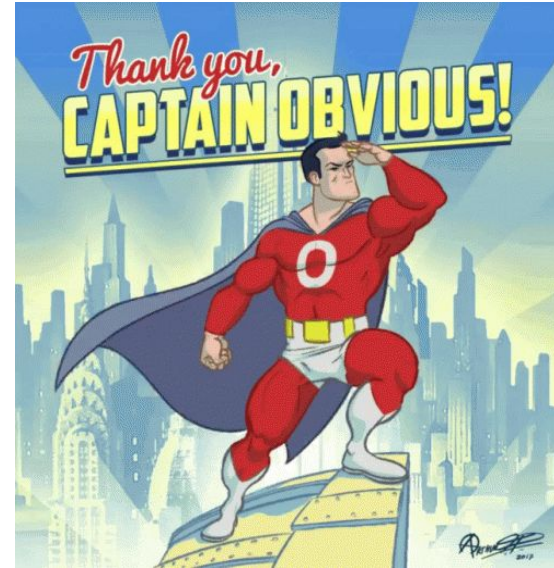
- By simply naming one of the structures being used, and one of the types of diction, and changing the verb from a form of “to do” to a more specific verb- you get a more detailed, specific, and focused statement.

# Practice #2

Directions: Using the strategy you just learned and practiced, revise one of your sentences from the piece of writing you chose to work with today.

**\*Remember\*** you never want to just say: “the author used diction, structure and tone.” Of course they did- they are authors your job is to tell us **what kind**.

**Please use the links on the additional resource slide to help you.**





# Checklist

Use the following checklist to make sure your thesis is specific.

\_\_\_ 1. You have a **specific verb**

Ex: compares, reveals, illustrates...

\_\_\_ 2. You list the **specific elements**

Ex: metaphor, imagery, rhyme, allusion...

\_\_\_ 3. Add a **modifier** to your elements for more specificity

Ex: extended metaphor, light vs dark imagery, slant rhyme,  
pop culture allusion

# Additional Resources

[155 Vocabulary Words to describe tone](#)

[AP Lit. Vocabulary Words](#)

[Verbs to Use INSTEAD of “Use” of “Show”](#)