**Simple Sentence- express a single thought and must have a subject and a verb (except for imperative (command) sentences or interjections)**

**Editing notes**

To find the subject and verb ask these two questions.

To find the subject- Ask who/what is the sentence about?

To find the verb- Ask what is the subject doing?

***Parts of a sentence***

Subject-Who or what a sentence is about\*

Verb -action word (explains what a subject or noun is doing)

Noun-person, place or thing

Adjective- word that describes a noun

Adverb-word that describes a verb

Pronoun- word that takes the place of a noun

Conjunction- a word that is used to link sentences, clauses, phrases

(Remember FANBOYS- For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So)

Interjectiona word or words added to a sentence to show emotion that is not grammatically linked to other parts of the sentence (words like WOW! Oh my goodness! Booyah! Etc. )

Preposition-a word that links nouns, pronouns and phrases to other parts of a sentence

***Common sentence errors***

*Run-on sentence*- when two or more sentences are joined together incorrectly

Things to remember- SENTENCES CANNOT BE JOINED WITH COMMAS.

Rules of Thumb- Do not join more than 3 sentences together. Never use a conjunction more than once to join sentences. Use a maximum of 2 conjunctions when joining sentences together.

To fix a run on sentence you must join the sentences together correctly.

*You can use one of the following methods:*

1.  Separate into individual sentences.

2.  Join with a semi-colon if the topics of the sentences are linked.

3.  Make one into a subordinate clause (making one part of the sentence dependent on the other)

4.  Join using an appropriate conjunction.

*Sentence fragments*

A fragment is caused when either the subject, verb, or both are missing in any part of the sentence. (missing a subject, a verb or both)

*To fix*- Identify the subjects and the verbs.  For each possible sentence you must have one of
each.  Add as required.  If a sentence has a conjunction but only one subject and verb it is also a sentence fragment and an additional subject and/or verb needs to be added.

*Subject/verb agreement*

Subjects and verbs must agree in number- ie. singular subjects must have singular verbs and plural subjects must have plural verbs.  If one is singular and the other is plural you must make them match.

*To fix*- identify the subjects- and make sure the verbs are the same in number

*Tense agreement*

Sentences must be written in the same tense - unless the context is such that the time frame
changes during the sentence.  Otherwise, they must be made to match.

*To fix*- identify the subjects and the verbs- make sure they are all in the correct tense.

***Other ways to improve your writing:***

1.  Change up the vocabulary.  (use thesaurus)

2.  Add adverbs and adjectives.

3.  Change up the length of your sentences. (make some longer and some shorter)

4.  Change up the order of your sentences. (change where the subject and verb are)

5.  Use description (appeal to the 5 senses- sight, sound, smell, taste, touch)  Show don't tell.

6.  Add details, facts, reasons, examples and explanations to make it more interesting or to support what you are saying.