

Revising Sentences Using the Paramedic Method

EXAMPLE SENTENCES TO PRACTICE CONCISENESS AND THE PARAMETIC METHOD:

See guide at: <http://www.lirvin.net/WGuides/Pmethod.htm>

NOTICE: Each revision creates a clear subject and active verb and puts them together in that order: subject + active verb. No “to be” verbs.

1. The decision was made by my boss yesterday.

~~my boss~~ ~~The decision was made~~ ~~decided~~ ~~by my boss~~ yesterday.

My boss decided yesterday.

2. Their motives were applauded by us, but their wisdom was doubted.

We applauded their motives, but doubted their wisdom.

3. The meeting was coordinated by Doug in Paul's absence.

~~The meeting was~~ ~~Doug~~ coordinated ~~The meeting~~ ~~by Doug~~ in Paul's absence.

Doug coordinated the meeting in Paul's absence

4. Even when the sun is hidden and the sky is speckled with stars, the heat lingers, hanging motionless in the air.

Even when the sun ~~is hidden~~ ~~hides~~ and ~~stars speckle~~ the sky ~~is speckled with stars~~, the heat lingers, hanging motionless in the air.

Even when the sun hides and stars speckle the sky, the heat lingers, hanging motionless in the air.

5. There were ten students in Mrs. Robinson's class.

~~There were~~ ten students ~~attended~~ ~~in~~ Mrs. Robinson's class.

Ten students attended Mrs. Robinson's class.

6. It is the governor who signs or vetoes bills.

~~It is~~ the governor ~~who~~ signs or vetoes bills.

The governor signs or vetoes bills.

7. Controlling the quality and level of television shows that children watch is a continuing challenge to parents that they must meet on a daily basis.

Daily parents must meet the challenge of controlling the television shows that children watch.

8. Your figures were checked by the research department.

the research department checked Your figures were ~~checked~~ by ~~the research department~~.

The research department checked your figures.

9. My recommendation is for a larger budget.

I recommend a larger budget.

10. It is essential that we act immediately.

We must act immediately