

Prompting for Revision: A Menu of Ideas

Rule/Convention	Example Prompts/Language
Use Active Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Revise your sentence so that it’s clear that the <u>subject</u> is performing the <u>action</u>.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Non-Example: “Your bicycle was <u>damaged</u> by <u>him</u>.” ○ Example: “<u>He</u> <u>damaged</u> your bicycle.”
Avoid Repetition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Remove phrases/ideas from your response that show up more than once.” • “What’s a different way we could say (insert repetitive phrase)?”
Add an Appositive(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Add an appositive to the sentence you wrote about _____” (e.g., “Gandhi had an impact.” → “Gandhi, <u>a pacifist and important leader</u>, had an impact.”)
Add a Subordinating Conjunction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Now begin this sentence with a subordinating conjunction” (e.g., if, unless, so, after, etc.). • “Try including a dependent clause” (e.g., “Until the sun sets...”; “...unless Peter helps” etc.)
Use Technical/College Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “How can we say that like a scientist/historian/writer/A.P. scholar/5th grader/etc.?” • “What vocabulary can we incorporate from the text to make our word choice more precise?”
Combine Sentences/Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Choose two sentences that work best when they are combined.” • “How can we put these two sentences together to show how the ideas connect?”
Include Transitional Phrases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Add a transitional phrase(s) here to make your response flow even better.” • “Start with a phrase that shows _____” (contrast/similarity/cause-and-effect, etc.)
Make Clear/Direct Assertions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Revise your argument sentence to make it more direct/assertive/definite.” • “Take out words that show uncertainty” (e.g., would, should, could, may, might, not, etc.)
Use Specific Nouns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Revise your sentence so that it includes the names of specific characters/book title/etc.” • “Replace two pronouns in your response with more specific nouns.”
Add More Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Add one more piece of evidence from page X to make your argument even stronger.”