

Zigzag & And

Sentence Craft — Guided Practice

Down the Rabbit-Hole

Lewis Carroll, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1.1 Complete thoughts

Directions: A complete sentence tells who or what the sentence is about, tells what happened, and finishes the thought. Mark each group **S** or **F**. Then repair the fragments.

Worked example: *when the Rabbit hurried on* is a fragment because the thought is unfinished. One repair is *When the Rabbit hurried on, Alice followed it.*

1. Mark each group S or F.

- (a) *Alice felt sleepy.* **S**
- (b) *under the hedge* **F**
- (c) *The jar was empty.* **S**
- (d) *because the day was hot* **F**
- (e) *Alice wondered what would happen next.* **S**

2. Rewrite each fragment as one complete sentence.

- (a) *by her sister on the bank*

Solution: Alice sat by her sister on the bank.

- (b) *when the Rabbit took out a watch*

Solution: Alice became curious when the Rabbit took out a watch.

- (c) *because there was nothing else to do*

Solution: Alice began talking because there was nothing else to do.

1.2 Put the words in order

Directions: Rearrange each word set into one sentence that makes sense. Start with a capital letter and add the correct end punctuation.

Worked example: *Rabbit / watch / a / the / had* becomes *The Rabbit had a watch.*

3. Rearrange: *Rabbit / the / the / entered / White / rabbit-hole*

Solution: The White Rabbit entered the rabbit-hole.

4. Rearrange: *in / empty / cupboard / a / alice / jar / the / placed*

Solution: Alice placed the empty jar in a cupboard.

5. Rearrange: *leaves / sticks / ended / dry / the / on / fall / and*

Solution: The fall ended on sticks and dry leaves.

1.3 Mark the boundaries

Directions: A run-on sentence has complete thoughts that are not separated correctly. Add a full stop, a semicolon, or a joining word such as *and*, *but*, or *so*.

Worked example: *The Rabbit carried a watch Alice stared.* becomes *The Rabbit carried a watch, so Alice stared.*

6. Repair: *Alice chased the Rabbit it entered the rabbit-hole.*

Solution: Alice chased the Rabbit, and it entered the rabbit-hole.

7. Repair: *The well was dark Alice looked at its sides.*

Solution: The well was dark, so Alice looked at its sides.

8. Repair: *Alice saw a jar it was empty she put it away.*

Solution: Alice saw a jar. It was empty, so she put it away.

1.4 Add useful information

Directions: Begin with the short sentence. Write notes for **when**, **where**, and **why**; notes may be fragments. Then write one complete expanded sentence.

Worked example: Starting sentence: *Alice followed.* Notes: *another moment; down the rabbit-hole; burning curiosity.* Expanded sentence: *In another moment, Alice followed the Rabbit down the rabbit-hole because she was burning with curiosity.*

9. Expand *Alice fell.* **Notes**

(a) **when?**

Solution: after the tunnel dipped suddenly

(b) **where?**

Solution: down a very deep well

(c) **why/how?**

Solution: no time to stop herself

Expanded sentence:

Solution: After the tunnel dipped suddenly, Alice fell down a very deep well because she had no time to stop herself.

10. Expand *Alice looked.* **Notes**

(a) **when?**

Solution: during the long fall

(b) **where?**

Solution: along the sides of the well

(c) **why?**

Solution: plenty of time

Expanded sentence:

Solution: During the long fall, Alice looked along the sides of the well because she had plenty of time.

1.5 Ask answerable questions

Directions: A useful question can be answered from the reading. Use the question word or opening supplied. Do not ask for information the passage does not give.

Worked example: Answer: *Alice put the empty jar in a cupboard.* Question: *What did Alice do with the empty jar?*

11. Write a question whose answer is *the White Rabbit with pink eyes*.

Solution: Who ran close by Alice?

12. Write a question that asks what Alice saw on the sides of the well.

Solution: What did Alice see on the sides of the well?

13. Write a question that asks why Alice put the empty jar in a cupboard.

Solution: Why did Alice put the empty jar in a cupboard?

14. The answer is *Dinah, the cat*. Write the question.

Solution: Who was Dinah?

1.6 Show reasons, contrasts, and results

Directions: Finish each sentence three ways. *Because* gives a reason, *but* shows a contrast, and *so* shows a result. Every ending must be a complete thought.

Worked example: *Alice followed the Rabbit because she was curious, but she had no exit plan, so she entered the hole.*

15. Complete each stem.

Alice chased the Rabbit because

Solution: she wanted to discover where it was going.

Alice chased the Rabbit, but

Solution: she did not consider how she would get out.

Alice chased the Rabbit, so

Solution: she reached the rabbit-hole beneath the hedge.

16. Complete each stem.

Alice put the jar into a cupboard because

Solution: she feared that dropping it might kill somebody underneath.

Alice put the jar into a cupboard, but

Solution: she was still falling down the well.

Alice put the jar into a cupboard, so

Solution: she no longer had to hold it as she fell.

1.7 Choose a sentence purpose

Directions: A statement tells, a question asks, a command directs, and an exclamation shows strong feeling. Identify the purpose, then write one example of each.

Worked example: *Would the fall ever end?* is a **question**; *Look at the shelves!* is a **command**.

17. Identify each sentence.

- (a) *Alice followed the Rabbit.* **statement**
- (b) *Where will the Rabbit go next?* **question**
- (c) *Look at the cupboards.* **command**
- (d) *What a deep well this is!* **exclamation**

18. Write four sentences about the fall: one statement, one question, one command, and one exclamation.

Statement:

Solution: Alice had time to look at the sides of the well.

Question:

Solution: What will Alice see next?

Command:

Solution: Describe the objects on the well's sides.

Exclamation:

Solution: What a long fall Alice had!

1.8 Join ideas with clause links

Directions: Finish each sentence using the opening word. A dependent clause beginning with *before*, *after*, *although*, or *when* is not complete by itself.

Worked example: *Although the well was dark, Alice looked at its sides.*

19. Complete: *Before Alice followed the Rabbit, ...*

Solution: Before Alice followed the Rabbit, she sat by her sister on the bank.

20. Complete: *After the Rabbit took out its watch, ...*

Solution: After the Rabbit took out its watch, Alice started to her feet.

21. Complete: *Although the jar was empty, ...*

Solution: Although the jar was empty, Alice placed it safely in a cupboard.

22. Complete: *When the fall ended, ...*

Solution: When the fall ended, Alice landed on sticks and dry leaves.

1.9 Guide the reader between ideas

Directions: Choose a transition from the bank and use it at the beginning of a complete sentence. Add a comma after the transition. Bank: *First, Then, For example, However, Finally.*

Worked example: *The Rabbit looked at its watch. **Then,** Alice started to her feet.*

23. Show the first thing Alice did while sitting by her sister.

Solution: First, Alice peeped into her sister's book.

24. Show the next event after the Rabbit appeared.

Solution: Then, the Rabbit said it would be late.

25. Give one example of what Alice saw in the well.

Solution: For example, Alice saw maps and pictures hanging upon pegs.

26. Show the final event in the excerpt.

Solution: Finally, Alice landed on sticks and dry leaves.

1.10 Clarify a name with a noun phrase

Directions: A noun phrase can rename a person, animal, or object. It contains no verb. Set a nonessential renaming phrase between commas.

Worked example: In *Dinah, the cat, was on Alice's mind*, the cat renames *Dinah*.

27. Copy the renaming phrase: *The White Rabbit, a hurried animal with a watch, ran close by Alice.*

Solution: a hurried animal with a watch

28. Add a phrase from the bank: *Dinah, ..., was remembered during the fall.* Bank: *the cat, a deep well, an empty jar.*

Solution: Dinah, the cat, was remembered during the fall.

29. Write one sentence containing *the jar* and the renaming phrase *an empty container*.

Solution: Alice put the jar, an empty container, into a cupboard.

1.11 Combine related statements

Directions: Combine each group into one fluent sentence. Use the named strategy and keep the important information.

Worked example: *The Rabbit had a watch. The Rabbit had a waistcoat-pocket.* Using a renaming phrase: *The Rabbit, an animal with a waistcoat-pocket, carried a watch.*

30. Combine with *but* and *so*: *The jar was labelled orange marmalade. The jar was empty. Alice put it away.*

Solution: The jar was labelled orange marmalade, but it was empty, so Alice put it away.

31. Combine with a pronoun and *and*: *Alice saw the Rabbit. Alice chased the Rabbit.*

Solution: Alice saw the Rabbit and chased it.

32. Combine with *although*: *The well was deep. The well was dark. Alice kept falling.*

Solution: Although the well was deep and dark, Alice kept falling.