**Color Coding:**

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ENG 095

Step 1: Underline the first word of every sentence in your piece. Make a list of those words to the side and tally each time you use them**. THE RULE: You are only allowed to use the first word of a sentence ONCE throughout the ENTIRE piece!** For example: “The cat ran down the road.” The word “the” may be the first word in only ONE sentence in your entire piece.

Why? This forces you to do several things, but the most important is that it challenges you to write more developed and higher-level sentences. A side bar to that is that this rule forces you to choose different words therefore mixing up your word choice and causing you to have a better sample of vocabulary in your piece.

How to start: Look at the examples below. These are common ways that you can take the same idea of a sentence, but change the variation to meet this requirement. Give it a try!

**Adjective:**

Real crowd pleasers, the drumline performs *Martian Mambo* before the Westlake game.

**Infinitive:**

To engage the crowd before the Westlake game, the drumline performs *Martian Mambo* in alien attire.

**Participle:**

Dressed as aliens, the drumline performs *Martian Mambo* before the Westlake game.

**Conditional:**

If the drumline performed their pre-game warm-up in alien attire, the Band Boosters promised the percussionist five extra large pizzas.

**Adverb:**

Colorfully dressed as aliens, the drumline performs *Martian Mambo* before the Westlake game.

**Prepositional:**

Before the Westlake game, the drumline performs *Martian Mambo* in alien attire.

**Casual:**

Since the half-time show had a Star Wars theme, the drumline previewed the performance for the pre-game crowd in the *Martian Mambo*.

**Gerund:**

Playing the *Martian Mambo*, the drumline, dressed in alien attire, warms up the pre-game crowd.