

<u>Sentence Transformation – Writing Task 1</u>

Teacher's notes

Aim: Better able to demonstrate grammatical accuracy and an ability to use a variety of complex sentences in Writing Task 1 (Assessment Criteria – *Grammatical Range and Accuracy*).

Instructions

- 1. Hand out worksheet 1 and ask Ss in pairs to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the written extract. Elicit feedback trying to bring out the points in the answer key below.
- 2. Tell Ss they're going to look at how to show a greater range of structures by playing a sentence transformation game.

Ask Ss to complete the gaps in the two sentences at the bottom of worksheet 1. You may want to do a brief review of passive at this stage.

- 3. Play the sentence transformation game described below.
- Write the example sentence from worksheet 2 and the gapped version below it on the board. Number the gaps, e.g.

There were dramatic fluctuations in the number of people who took holidays in the UK from 2001 to 2005.

The number of people who took holidays in the UK _____ _ ___ 2001 to 2005

• Put Ss into teams. Each team takes it in turns to try to guess one gap, or complete the whole transformed sentence. Award points as follows:

1 word guessed correctly = 10 points

1 word guessed incorrectly = **no points**

Complete sentence guessed correctly = 50 points

Complete sentence guessed incorrectly = minus 50 points

Example guesses and points for the sentence above

Team 1 – "Number 1 is *fluctuating*" no points

Team 2 – "Number 3 is *from*" **10 points (teacher writes** *from* **at number 3)**

Team 3 – "The complete sentence is *dramatically fluctuated*" minus 50 points

Team 4 – "The complete sentence is *fluctuated dramatically*" **50 points**

- Keep writing new sentences (from the answer key to worksheet 2 words in bold should be gapped and numbered) and going in order from team to team taking guesses until all sentences are used (or until the game becomes dull). If all the teams are struggling, write in extra words to help. Add up scores as you go along until you have a winning team at the end.
- 4. Hand out worksheet 2 as consolidation.

Follow up

Ask Ss to rewrite the extract from stage 1 using a greater variety of structures.

Alternative suggestion

After you have demonstrated the game, get Ss to play it in small groups. Nominate one student from the group to be the teacher and keep score. He/she will need worksheet 2 and the answer sheet.



ANSWER KEY – Sentence Transformations – Writing Task 1

Worksheet 1

<u>Strengths:</u> candidate has used a variety of vocab, the language is accurate (spelling, grammar, word formation, etc), the information is accurate (= it correctly describes the graph), data is given to support the description (e.g. *from 27 degrees*)

<u>Weaknesses:</u> the main weakness is the limited range of structures used – past simple is repeated throughout the extract

Showing a range

- A From 1999 to 2005 the temperature fluctuated slightly. **(verb + adverb)**B From 1999 to 2005 there was a <u>slight</u> <u>fluctuation</u> in the temperature. **(adj. + noun)**
- A The weather station recorded temperatures of 18 degrees in 1994. (active)
 B Temperatures of 18 degrees were recorded in 1994. (passive)

Note: students need to know that:

- When transforming **v** + **adv** to **adj** + **n**, they need a <u>preposition</u> after the noun and they need to use 'to be' in the correct tense after *there* (in the sentence above, past simple).
- Passive is formed with 'to be' in the correct tense + past participle

Worksheet 2

- 1. The price of theatre tickets reached a peak in 2004. There was a peak in the price of theatre tickets in 2004.
- 2. A slight drop in temperatures in 2006 led to an overall average of 24 degrees. **Temperatures dropped slightly** in 2006 **leading to** an overall average of 24 degrees.
- 3. In general, Germany will spend much less on technology than the UK over the next 20 years. In general, **much less will be spent** on technology in Germany **than in the** UK over the next 20 years.
- 4. The aging population in the UK has grown steadily.

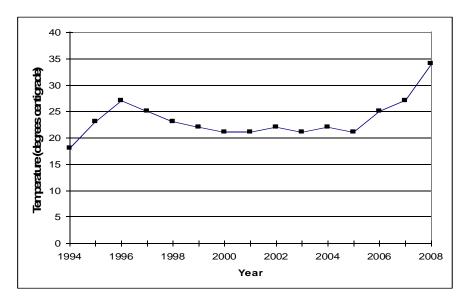
 There has been steady growth in the aging population in the UK.
- 5. Finally, a conveyor belt moves the parcels to the distribution point. Finally, **the** parcels **are moved to the distribution point by** a conveyor belt.
- 6. Spending patterns in Asia have differed significantly since 2008. There **have been significant differences in** spending patterns in Asia since 2008.
- 7. The price of oil is expected to rise dramatically.

 There is expected to be a dramatic rise in the price of oil.
- 8. The Town Council has made a number of noticeable changes to the layout of the roads. The layout of the roads has been changed noticeably.



Worksheet 1 - Sentence Transformations - Writing Task 1

Look at the graph below and read the extract of what one candidate wrote. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the extract?



Extract:

The weather station recorded temperatures of 18 degrees in 1994. From 1994 to 1996 the temperature increased rapidly from 27 degrees. However, from 1996 the temperature declined gradually to around 22 degrees in 1998. From 1999 to 2005 it fluctuated slightly and from 2006 it rose dramatically again. The temperature peaked at 24 degrees in 2008.

Showing a range of structures

In Writing Task 1, you need to demonstrate that you can use a range of grammatical structures. Below are two sentences with the same meaning but written in different ways. **Can you complete sentence B in both cases?**

A From 1999 to 2005 the temperature fluctuated slightly. (verb + adverb)

B From 1999 to 2005 there was a _____ _ _ _ the temperature. (adj. + noun)

A The weather station recorded temperatures of 18 degrees in 1994. (active)

B Temperatures of 18 degrees _____ in 1994. (passive)



Worksheet 2 - Sentence Transformations - Writing Task 1

Complete the gaps in the sentences below so that the second sentence is expressed in a different way.

Example:

There were dramatic fluctuations in the number of people who took holidays from 2001 to 2005.

The number of people who took holidays fluctuated dramatically from 2001 to 2005.

		people who took hondays <u>motuated</u>	<u> </u>
1.	The price o	of theatre tickets reached a peak in 200	04.
Th	ere	_ a peak	
	2004.		
2.	A slight dro	p in temperatures in 2006 led to an ov	verall average of 24 degrees.
		in 2006	an overall average
of	24 degrees		
3.	In general,	Germany will spend much less on tech	hnology than the UK over the next 20
	years.		
In	general,		on
tec	hnology in	Germany	UK over the next 20 years.
4.	The aging p	oopulation in the UK has grown steadi	ly.
Th	ere		the aging population
in	the UK.		
5.	Finally, a co	onveyor belt moves the parcels to the	distribution point.
Fir	nally,	parcels	
		a conveyor	r belt.
6.	Spending p	patterns in Asia have differed significar	ntly since 2008.
Th	ere		spending patterns
in .	Asia since	2008.	
7.	The price o	f oil is expected to rise dramatically.	
Th	ere	expected	a
	the	e price of oil.	
8.	The Town (Council has made a number of noticea	able changes to the layout of the
	roads.		
Th	e layout of	the roads	