# Composition

**Styling Sentences** 

## S V; S V

- Gloria, try on these jeans; they seem to be your size.
- (two short simple sentences having two closely related ideas.)

#### S V DO; S, DO or SC

- His mother told him to rent a car; his sister, to pack the suitcase.
- (When you don't want to repeat the same verb in the second clause, this pattern can be helpful.)

# General Statement (idea): specific statement (example)

- Remember Yogi Berra's advice: It ain't over till it's over.
- (When you want the second part of a sentence to explain the first part)

### A, B, C

- The United States has a government of the people, by the people, for the people.
- (Omit the conjunction to give the sentence a quick, staccato sound.)

### A and B, C and D, E and F

- Eager yet fearful, confident but somewhat suspicious, Jason eyed the barber who would give him his first haircut.
- (This construction creates a balanced rhythm.)

# Appositive, appositive, appositive—summary word S V

- The depressed, the stressed, the lonely, the fearful—all have trouble coping with problem.
- Gluttony, lust, envy—which is the worst sin?

# S –appositive, appositive--V

 The basic writing skills (good vocabulary, knowledge of grammar, sense of style) can be learned by almost everyone.

### If..., if..., if... then SV

 If he had the money, if he had the time, if he had a companion, he would take that trip around the world.

#### SV key term—repeated key term

 We all have problems but we can find a solution, a solution that works, a solution that is equitable.

# S V word: the appositive

 Airport thieves have a common target: unwary travelers.

# S, modifier, V.

 A small drop of ink, falling like dew upon a thought, can make millions think.

# Participle phrase, SV

 Expecting a spectacular display, the crowd eagerly awaited the fireworks.

# Modifier, SV

 Desperate, the young mother called for help.

# Prepositional phrase SV

After a long pause, the teacher continued.

#### Object or subject complement SV

No friend of snakes is my sister Jean.

## If not SV, at least SV

 Reluctantly, every dieter looks for a favorable verdict from the bathroom scale: if not a pound less, at least not an ounce more.

# Dependent clause as subject V

How he did that is still amazing to me.

## Absolute construction, SV

 The snow having stopped, we were able to continue our journey.

#### SV

- Days passed.
- (the short, simple sentence for relief or dramatic effect)

# The deliberate fragment

- Now, on with the story.
- But how?
- But to get back to the subject.
- All to no avail.
- Early to bed!

#### Figurative language in sentences

- Allusion
- Analogy
- Irony
- Metaphor
- Personification
- simile