



English I: Writing: Module 7: Practice 2: Section 6

Strengthen Sentence Variety/Sentence Combining

Imitating Paragraphs

Instructions: Read the paragraph first. Then look at the sentence-by-sentence break down. Mouse over the "possible imitation" buttons to see a sample imitation sentence.

After reading both Sulzberger's sentences and the model imitation sentences, write an original imitation sentence of your own using one of the following topics (or one of your own): birthday gone wrong, house for sale, sunset in the park, survival hike.



Source: Texas Hill Country, mikerastiello, Flickr

At Uvalde, where the land brightens through a valley that nourishes herds of beef cattle, [the hang glider pilots] forked west off U.S. Highway 83, which they had been following from above. They tracked State Highway 55, mimicking the curves of the Nueces River as it wound into the Texas Hill Country.

Though they were not tethered in any way to these roads, they used them like landmarks to help guide their flight, even as they occasionally diverted miles from them to pursue areas with better flying conditions.

The Hill Country was known as the most technically challenging segment of the trip. The ridges and folds in the earth stir up the wind, making the air more violent and unpredictable. The rising terrain eats at the altitude from below while providing few places to land. Many record attempts fell short there.

Sentence by Sentence Breakdown: Reread each sentence. Compare it to the model imitation to get a feel for the way the structure of the sentence works. When you are ready, write your own sentence following the structure that is common to both Sulzberger's sentence and the model.



Source: US Hwy. 83 in Uvalde County, TX IMG 1874, Billy Hathorn, Wikimedia

1. At Uvalde, where the land brightens through a valley that nourishes herds of beef cattle, [the hang glider pilots] forked west off U.S. Highway 83, which they had been following from above.

Model Imitation: In the hallway outside the coach's office, where boxes of jerseys and football helmets are piled up, the custodian was busy polishing the floor that had been scuffed by muddy football cleats.

Your Imitation:

Possible Imitation



Source: TX Hwy 55 in Uvalde County IMG 1319, Billy Hathorn, Wikimedia

2. They tracked State Highway 55, mimicking the curves of the Nueces River as it wound into the Texas Hill Country.

Model Imitation: He cleaned the red and white linoleum, working to restore to the look of a championship school's floor.

Your Imitation:

Possible Imitation



Source: Texas Highway - 029.30, Core Burn, Flickr

3. Though they were not tethered in any way to these roads, they used them like landmarks to help guide their flight, even as they occasionally diverted miles from them to pursue areas with better flying conditions.

Model Imitation: Though he was not a student at the school, he felt pride and loyalty, even as he occasionally grumbled about the careless disregard of the students for the property of the school.

Your Imitation:

Possible Imitation



Source: Hill Country near Garner State Park IMG 4288, Billy Hathorn, Wikimedia

4. The Hill Country was known as the most technically challenging segment of the trip.

Model Imitation: This school was known for its legendary football team.

Your Imitation:

Possible Imitation



Source: U.S. Route 83 in Texas Hill Country IMG 4315, Billy Hathorn, Wikimedia

5. The ridges and folds in the earth stir up the wind, making the air more violent and unpredictable.

Model Imitation: The students, parents, faculty, and staff all felt involved in the wins and losses of the team, making the team feel more than ever like they had to give it all they could.

Your Imitation:

Possible Imitation



Source: Texas Hill Country 187N, Zereschk, Wikimedia

6. The rising terrain eats at the altitude from below while providing few places to land.

Model Imitation: This pride and loyalty increases the pressure on the team while making each victory that much sweeter.

Your Imitation:

Possible Imitation



Source: IMG_6191, starglows, Flickr

7. Many record attempts fell short there.

Model Imitation: The entire community celebrated many victories.

Your Imitation:

Possible Imitation