**Expanding sentences**

Adapted from a lesson by Dr. Mark Womack of the University of Houston

The idea here is to feel more comfortable creating longer sentences with more complex structure to help provide more sentence variation, leading to greater sentence fluency.

Start out with a short simple sentence: Shane played his guitar.

1. Expand the sentence to roughly 20 words.

*Shane, my best friend for life, played his guitar with the kind of precision that could make legendary Les Paul jealous.* ***20 words***

1. Expand the sentence to roughly 30 words.

*Shredding with the kind of precision that could make legendary Les Paul Jealous, Shane, my best friend for life, played his only guitar, an old black and red Gibson Esquire.* ***30 words***

1. Expand the sentence to roughly 80 words.

After watching a prized DVD of Eddie Van Halen shredding an awe-inspiring, jaw dropping solo during an especially rowdy Van Halen concert in Houston in 1993, Shane, one of the most naturally talented musicians I know and my best friend for life, played with the precision of a world renowned surgeon a ripping solo of his own on his guitar with enough ear-splitting volume to make his cat, an overweight orange tabby, retreat to the basement to cower in fear. **80 words**

Begin with a short simple sentence of your own, or choose one of the following:

* Dan kept it real.
* Sherry took the bus home.
* Todd groomed his mullet
* Steve ate eggs for breakfast.
* The trees shook in the wind.