

Improving sentences

Objective – to improve sentences by adding:

- adjectives
- adverbs
- a prepositional phrase
- an embedded clause
- an –ing and –ed clause.

Our basic sentence

A dog barked.

Adding adjectives

What is an adjective and what is its job?

A describing
word

To describe the
noun

The dog barked.

The **ferocious** dog barked.

The **scruffy** dog barked.

The **aggravated** dog barked

The adjective goes
before the noun.

Now it's your turn. Add an adjective. The-----dog barked

Adding adverbs

What is an adverb? What does it do?

Tells you how
something is being
done

It qualifies the
verb

The ferocious dog barked.

The ferocious dog barked **noisily**.

The ferocious dog barked **excitedly**.

Now it's your turn, how did the dog bark? Add an adverb to your already improved sentence.

Adding a prepositional phrase

What is a prepositional phrase ?

It tells you where or when something happened

Some examples are: on, in, under, by, after, through, during, beside

They can go at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of the sentence.

The ferocious dog barked noisily.

All through the night
the ferocious dog
barked noisily.

The ferocious dog,
in the back of the
car, barked noisily.

The ferocious
dog barked
noisily through
the hole in the
fence.

Can you add a prepositional phrase to the beginning or end of your sentence?

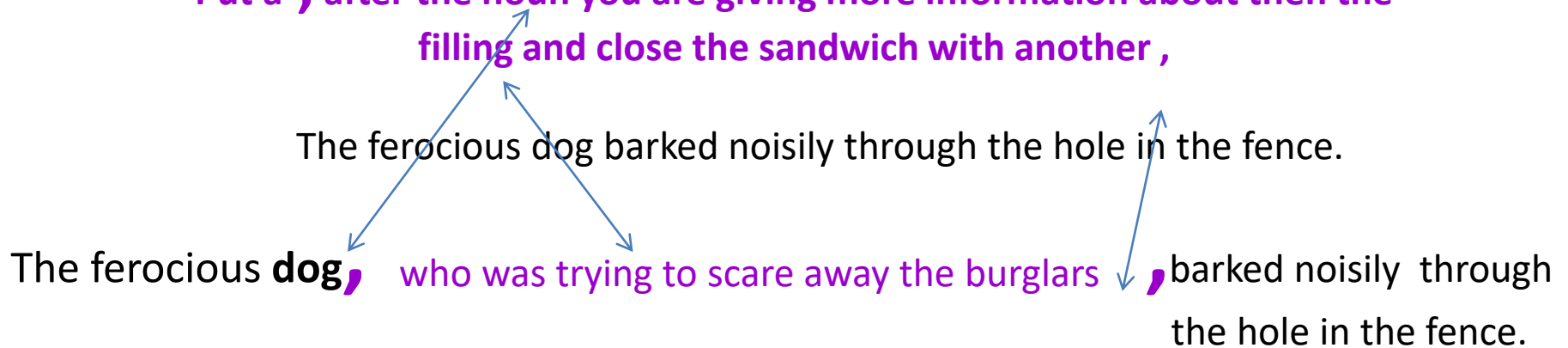
Embedding a clause – a sandwich sentence

Adding in information between commas using **who, which, that, with**.
Use commas as the two slices of bread and then put in the filling – extra information.

Put a **,** after the noun you are giving more information about then the filling and close the sandwich with another **,**

The ferocious dog barked noisily through the hole in the fence.

The ferocious **dog,** who was trying to scare away the burglars **,** barked noisily through the hole in the fence.



The ferocious dog, who lived next door, barked noisily through the hole in the fence.

The ferocious dog, that had just been injected, barked noisily through the hole in the fence.

Embed a clause into your sentence.

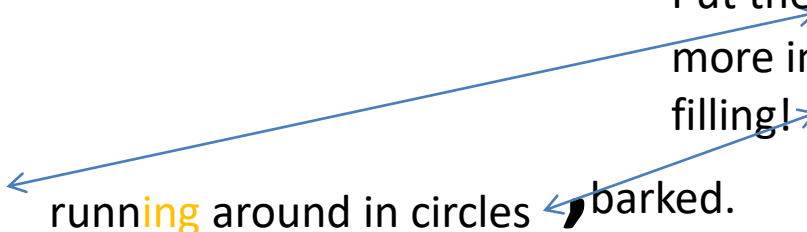
Adding an –ing or –ed clause

This is just another type of clause that you can embed in your sentence. The clause you embed begins with an –ing or an –ed word.

Put the , after the noun you are giving more information about and after the filling!

The dog, running around in circles, barked.

The dog, teased by the children, barked.

A diagram with two blue arrows. The first arrow starts from the text 'Put the , after the noun you are giving more information about and after the filling!' and points to the comma after 'The dog' in the sentence 'The dog, running around in circles, barked.' The second arrow starts from the same text and points to the comma after 'running around in circles' in the same sentence.

Putting it altogether!

Here's what we started with –
The dog barked.

And here's our improved sentence!

The **ferocious** dog, who was trying
to scare away the burglars, barked
noisily through the hole in the
fence.

Sentences to improve

The boy ran.

The sun shone.

The horse galloped.

The candle flickered.

The crowd cheered.

The cat climbed.

Sentences to improve

The screen froze.

The cup smashed.

The night fell.

The wind blew.

The man escaped.

The giant roared.

Send your improved sentences in to
me. Thanks.