

SENTENCE COMBINING

WARM-UP

1. The fans leaned forward.
2. The fans were eager.
3. The players leaned forward.
4. The players were eager.

PINBALL MACHINES

Combine the following sentences into an effective descriptive paragraph.

1. A bar near a college campus would be incomplete without a row of pinball machines.
2. The pinball machines line one of the walls of the bar.
3. Many people come not to drink.
4. Many people come to play.
5. The players stand in front of the machines.
6. The eyes of the players are focused on the silver ball.
7. The silver ball darts from one obstacle to another obstacle.
8. The trigger fingers of the players are poised over the flippers.
9. The flippers are at the side of the machine.
10. The players want the pleasure of winning a free game.
11. Or the players want the pleasure of scoring a million points.
12. For this pleasure the players pay dearly.
13. The players pay one quarter after another.
14. And then the players' coins are gone.
15. When they are, another machine waits nearby.
16. The purpose of the machine is to exchange dollar bills for still more quarters.

Source: Daiker, Donald A. *The Writer's Options: College Sentence Combining*. Harper & Row, 1982. 15-16.

STREET MUSICIAN

Combine the following sentences into an effective descriptive paragraph that includes several appositives.

1. I saw street musicians in Boston last summer.
2. The most moving was a banjo player.
3. He was blind.
4. He was a young man.
5. He was about my age.

6. He sat in front of Woolworth's.
7. His blank eyes were looking at no one.
8. His hair was sticking out from under a headband.
9. His hair was damp.
10. The headband was red.

11. He was an adept musician.
12. He entertained the passers-by until this.
13. His fingers slipped on the strings.
14. His fingers were slick with sweat in the city heat.
15. The slipping made it too difficult for him to play.

16. He wiped his hands on a large white handkerchief.
17. He leaned back against Woolworth's front window.
18. The banjo was across his lap.
19. And he sang ballads.
20. They were soft and low intervals of melancholy on a bright Boston day.

Source: Daiker, Donald A. *The Writer's Options: College Sentence Combining*. Harper & Row, 1982. 70-71.

ap•po•si•tion n.

Grammar. **a.** A construction in which a noun or noun phrase is placed with another as an explanatory equivalent, both having the same syntactic relation to the other elements in the sentence; for example, *Copley* and *the painter* in *The painter Copley was born in Boston*. **b.** The relationship between such nouns or noun phrases. (*American Heritage Electronic Dictionary*.) Thus: "... a blind young man about my age...."