

Writing Clearly

Writing clearly means delivering your message so that readers easily understand it. To write clearly, use specific, precise words. Write sentences that guide readers and have no extra words.

Unclear My problem was the stuff in my closet so it kept me from getting ready in the morning.

Clear I had extra clothes, toys, and shoes in my closet. I couldn't find what I needed, so I was late to school.

Follow these steps to write clearly:

- Use specific, precise words instead of vague or general ones.
 - Use words such as *so* and *because* that show how ideas are related.
 - Make sure words such as *it* or *they* clearly refer to specific persons or things.
 - Make sure your sentences are not wordy.
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Directions Rewrite each sentence to make it clearer.

1. I like piano lessons better than soccer, so I do it twice a week.

2. We need money because the fields and uniforms are old, and they are full of weeds.

3. The firefighters talk to kids about fire prevention, so they know how to do it.

Directions Write a sentence about a problem you have solved in school. Make sure the sentence states your meaning clearly.
