

# STAR



**BEYOND SURFACE  
REVISION**

**S**

**T**

**A**

**R**



**(Substitute)**

- Over used words
- Weak verbs with strong verbs
- Weak adjectives with strong adjectives
- Common nouns with proper nouns
- “dead” words

**(Take things out)**

- Unnecessary repetitions
- Unimportant or irrelevant information
- Parts that might belong in another place

**(Add)**

- detail
- Description
- New information
- Figurative language
- Development
- Clarification of meaning
- Expanded ideas

**(Rearrange)**

- The sequence to produce a desired effect
- The order for a more logical flow

# Eliminate some “Be” Verbs



Be, being, is, am, are, was, were

- The clouds were in the sky.
- The clouds hung in the sky.
- I am very tired.
- Exhaustion overwhelms my body.

# Use Synonyms for “Said”



- The man said, “I am next in line.”
- The man bellowed, “I am next in line”
- The man whined, “I am next in line.”
- The man threatened, “I am next in line.”
- The man scolded, “I am next in line.”

# Limit “Dead” Words



<b>Good</b>	<b>Very</b>	<b>Things</b>	<b>Really</b>
<b>A lot</b>	<b>Got</b>	<b>Kind of</b>	<b>Like</b>
<b>So (at beginning)</b>	<b>Well (at beginning)</b>	<b>Totally</b>	<b>I think</b>
<b>Stuff</b>	<b>Nice</b>	<b>Then</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>In my opinion</b>	<b>In conclusion</b>	<b>Gonna</b>	<b>Etc.</b>

The pizza was good.

- The pizza was scrumptious.
- The pizza was mouth watering.
- The pizza was fresh.
- The pizza was delectable.

# Sentence Branching



I drove my car to the beach.

- \_\_\_\_\_, I drove my car to the beach.
- I drove my car, \_\_\_\_\_, to the beach.
- I drove my car to the beach \_\_\_\_\_.

# Front Branch



- Hurriedly, I drove my car to the beach.
- After getting off work, I drove my car to the beach.
- With my best friend sitting next to me, I drove my car to the beach.

# Middle Branch



- I drove my car, radio blasting, to the beach.
- I drove my car, a '68 Chevy, to the beach.
- I drove my car, without asking permission, to the beach.

# End Branch



- I drove my car to the beach, hoping to find a good parking spot.
- I drove my car to the beach, unaware of the policeman behind me.
- I drove my car to the beach, praying the waves would be good.

# Put it all together



1. The pizza was good.
2. The pizza tasted fresh. (change the verb)
3. The pizza, piping hot from the oven, tasted fresh.  
(add a middle branch)
4. Piping hot from the oven, the pizza tasted fresh.  
(reorganize to a front branch)