

Explanations of Terms

Revision: Find the bad writing.
Replace it with good writing.

Example sentence: **The waiter was angry.**



Problem	Examples
Vague General; blurry non-specific	<i>There was something wrong with the guy.</i>
Repetition Same words or ideas, not for intentional effect	<i>He was mad, and also he was angry. He was very mad.</i>
Throwaway writing Telling the reader about your writing and your plans for later	<i>This is the part where I'm going to tell you about the waiter's mood. (I hope you like it.) And then we're going to take a walk on the beach.</i>
Weird order words of Words that have not read aloud been	<i>Mad this guy walking in was. My tacos he didn't even remember me.</i>
Crazy logic The words do not mean what the writer is trying to say	<i>Putting her lipstick on, the waiter yelled at the lady.</i>



Device	Example
Images What you could see	<i>His face was scarlet with fury.</i>
Sensory details What you could hear, smell, taste	<i>We could hear his stomping feet. We caught the whiff of tension in the air.</i>
Pitchforks Embedded lists	<i>We couldn't tell what was worse, the food or his angry service.</i>
Action Replace the "to be" verbs	<i>Blazing to our table, he glared at us.</i>
Metaphors Describe it as something concrete (like a land form or life form)	<i>He was a volcano of anger, serving hot destruction with the menus.</i>
Similes Compare it to something way different	<i>He handed us our bill like a sour boyfriend breaking up.</i>
Vocabulary Use some of those words you have been learning	<i>This guy was definitely not benevolent enough to work in the service industry.</i>
Thoughtshots What might occur to you, in your head	<i>I wondered if he might snap.</i>
Dialogue Write the talking	<i>"What!?" he snarled. "Could I have some more tea?" "Again?"</i>
Personification Make an object act like a person	<i>His pen groaned resentfully as he wrote our order.</i>