

DESKTOP WORD WALL ACTIVITY

Nouns

- Mustang
- Clydesdale
- Arabian
- palomino

Verbs

- gallop
- run
- sprint
- jump
- trot

Adjectives

- wild
- strong
- champion
- young
- beautiful

Adverbs

- stagger
- smart
- swift
- spunky

Create My Sentence →

THE old circus pony trots slow

FOR

Creative Writing
SELF GUIDED LESSON + TEMPLATES

BY PATTY ANN



Desktop Word Wall Activity

For Creative Writing

by Patty Ann

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The DESKTOP WORD WALL ACTIVITY is a lesson that uses thought clouds to develop your creative writing skills. This is an easy way to brainstorm and find the perfect words to produce sensational sentences.


Creative writing is about conveying emotion and feelings. Imagery is vital to a reader's journey. Behind every good sentence are descriptive words. Understand that every word has a substitute word that can better define its qualities. Details are the main ingredients of well-written work.

Desktop Word Wall Activity is a step-by-step guide on how to use a word wall to create original sentences. This booklet is a play guidebook. The exercises are practical, easy to comprehend, and downright fun!

Using cut-out clouds as a thought metaphor, you will think up alternative word options for nouns and verbs. You will learn to add modifiers and/or descriptions. Primarily you will learn to make sentences come to life.

Complete instructions, practice pages, and generic word cloud templates are all included. This activity is interactive education at its best. By adding these new skills you will develop dynamic sentences packed with descriptive details in no time at all.





Terminology Refresher & Review

Let's do a very short review of terminology you will be using during this exercise.

Nouns are words that name a person, place, thing, or idea. Nouns also indicate names or activities, collections or groups of things, concepts, conditions, events, and qualities.

Adjectives describe nouns and pronouns. Adjectives typically answer the following questions pertaining to the noun its associated with: What kind? Which one? How many?

Verbs are doing words. Verbs express physical, mental, or state of being actions. Verbs are stated in present, past, or future tense. A verb is a "doing / done / will be done" word.

Adverbs are words that modify verbs. Adverbs tell about the action of the verb. Adverbs are versatile because they can modify a verb, an adjective, another adverb, a preposition, or a clause—basically anything except nouns and pronouns (which are modified by adjectives).

We will be using **nouns**, **verbs**, **adjectives**, and **adverbs** in this playbook.

Let's jump in and get started!

This is your first sentence to improve:

★ **The horse is moving.** ★

Step 1: Take the primary word or word concepts (nouns and verbs) and write alternative—more describing words inside the clouds. Write down all the substitute words you can think of. These exchange words are ones that excel in description, contribute appeal, and help tell a vibrant story.

Horse > Other words to use are: Pinto, Mustang, Pony, Clydesdale, Thoroughbred, Equine, Quarter Horse, Morgan, Palomino, Arabian. Can you think of more nouns?

HORSE is the noun. Substitute the word horse with a noun that provides more description.

Moving > What other words can you use? Gallop, Sprint, Trot, Jump, Stop, Run, Fly, Walk, Amble. Are there more verbs that might work?

MOVING is the verb. Use another verb that is more descriptive and refines the word moving.
NOTE! At this point do NOT be concerned with using past or present tenses. Just create verbs!

Step 2: Build onto your main noun and verb words with new clouds. Inside each cloud you will describe features and make substitutions. Add adjectives to embellish nouns, and add adverbs to decorate verbs. Here is where you begin to build a story—and use your great imagination!

Horse Adjectives: Old, Young, Sick, Strong, Steady, Friendly, Lamé, Beautiful, Fuzzy, Chestnut, Trained, Wild, Circus, Tall, Champion

Add adjectives to describe the NOUN: HORSE

Moving Adverbs: Fast, Slow, Stagger, Loiter, Lazy, Spunky, Silly, Speed, Limp, Lamé, Pace, Smooth, Gaited, Prance, Sway, Swift, Quick

Add adverbs to describe the VERB: MOVING

NOTE: Adjectives and adverbs are extra words that a sentence shouldn't live without. Adjectives and adverbs add sensory details. These descriptive additions help you better imagine, comprehend, and understand the whole narrative being told.

Adjectives add appeal to sentences. They decorate adjoining nouns. Adverbs describe a verb action giving an accurate pictorial.

Step 3: Take all the words you wrote in the clouds and build a list for each cloud category. There are four clouds with four categories:

NOUNS * VERBS * ADJECTIVES * ADVERBS

Make a table and place the words from the cloud in each category.

Nouns	Adjectives	Verbs	Adverbs
Pinto	Champion	Gallop	Smooth
Pony	Circus	Walk	Limp
Palomino	Fuzzy	Stop	Slow
Mustang	Young	Amble	Fast
Clydesdale	Old	Sprint	Stagger
Thoroughbred	Beautiful	Trot	Lazy
Morgan	Chestnut	Fly	Loiter
Arabian	Trained	Run	Swift
Quarter Horse	Strong	Jump	Quick

Continue adding all cloud words to this table.
Add more words as you think of them.

NOTE: Sometimes words cross over between categories.

For instance, the word LIMP could be used as a verb or an adverb.
Example: The horse limped. OR > The horse's walk limped.

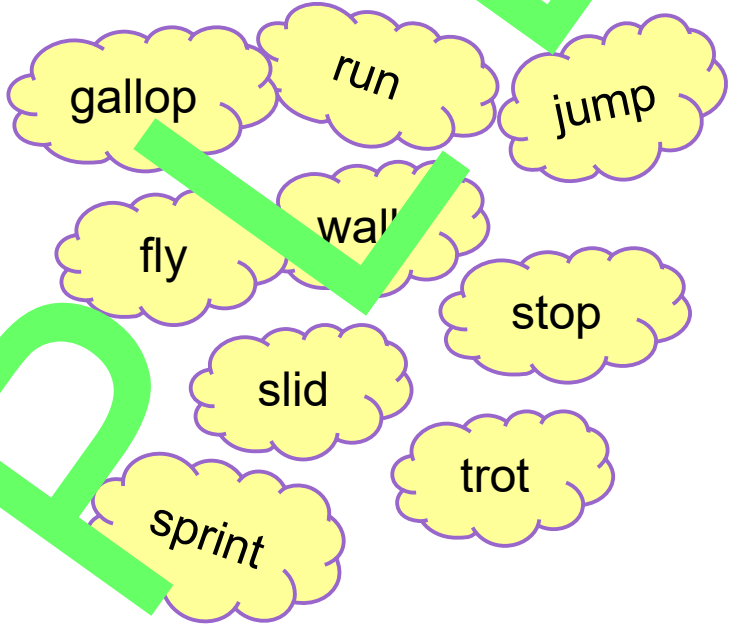
The word PINTO can be used as a noun or its adjective. For example:
The pinto stopped. In this case PINTO is a descriptive noun. Or, you
might say the pinto pony stopped. Now pinto is the adjective because
it describes the pony's coat.

Note: Breeds are capitalized, but their colors are not, unless it is a registered breed such as a Paint horse.

Step 4: Use the cloud templates at the back of this book and write all the words from each cloud category in individual clouds. Cut out all the word clouds so they are separated. Be sure to keep your category groups separated. Make a distinction between groups by using different color clouds.

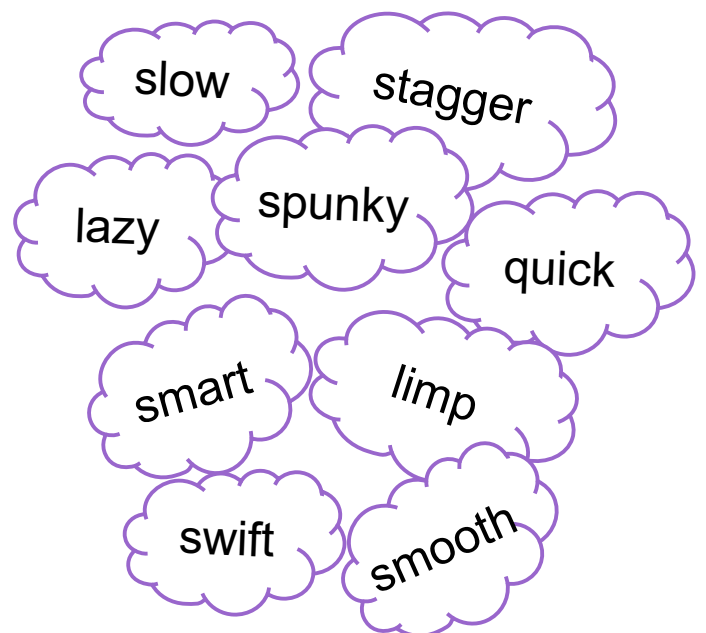
NOUNS

VERBS



ADJECTIVES

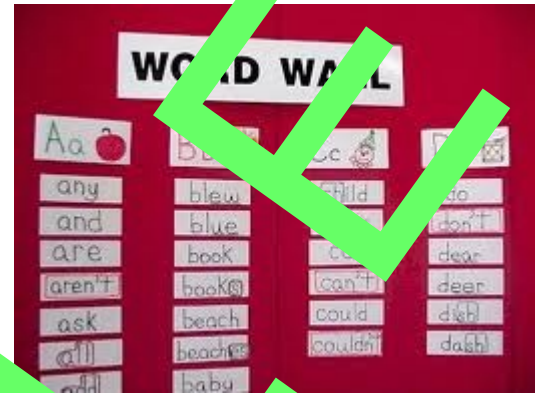
ADVERBS



Step 5: Decide on the type of WORD WALL you are going to use. Word Walls can be accomplished in a variety of ways!

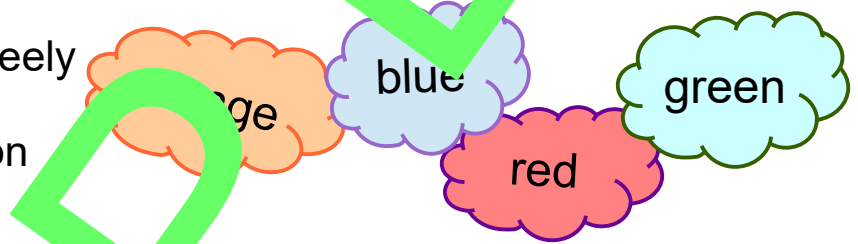
Word Walls can be used for:

- Building lists
- Branching out from a core idea
- Categorizing and grouping main thoughts



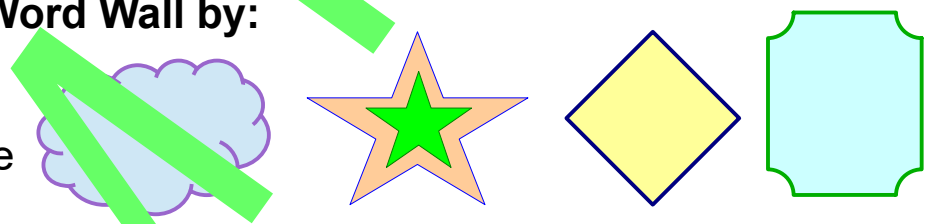
Some advantages:

- Words can be moved around freely
- Group ideas together easily
- Helps create a visual connection



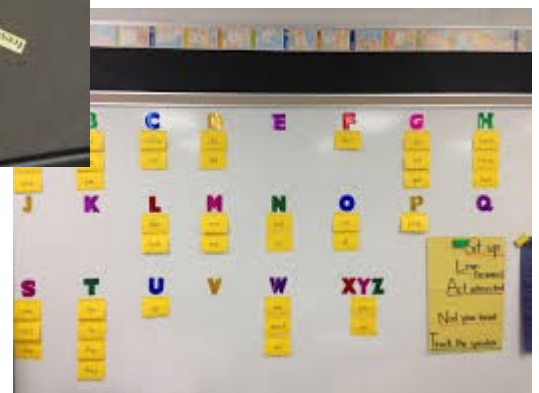
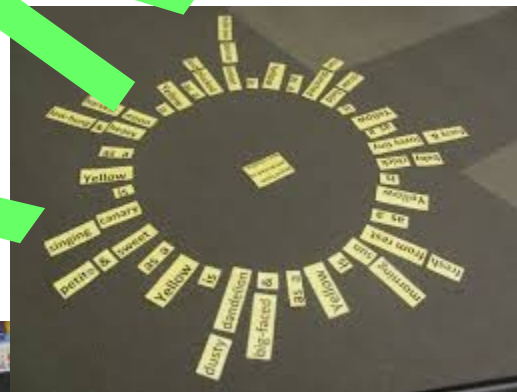
Enhance words in your Word Wall by:

- Using unique shapes
- Using color to categorize



Word Walls can be:

- Table tops
- Black boards
- White boards
- Walls, of course!



! Remember ! that your cut out words, if used on a vertical wall, will need adhesive on the back to stick. Use post it notes, place double back tape on the backside of each word, or a tacky back substance.

* * * * *

Step 6: Look at the original sentence: **The horse is moving.**
Place all of your thought clouds with words in front of yourself.
Now create a new, more detailed—and exciting sentence.

ADJECTIVES

chestnut young
old wild
beautiful circus

NOUNS

Arabian
pony
Mustang

VERBS

gallop
trot
walk

ADVERBS

smooth
quick
slow

The old circus pony trots slow

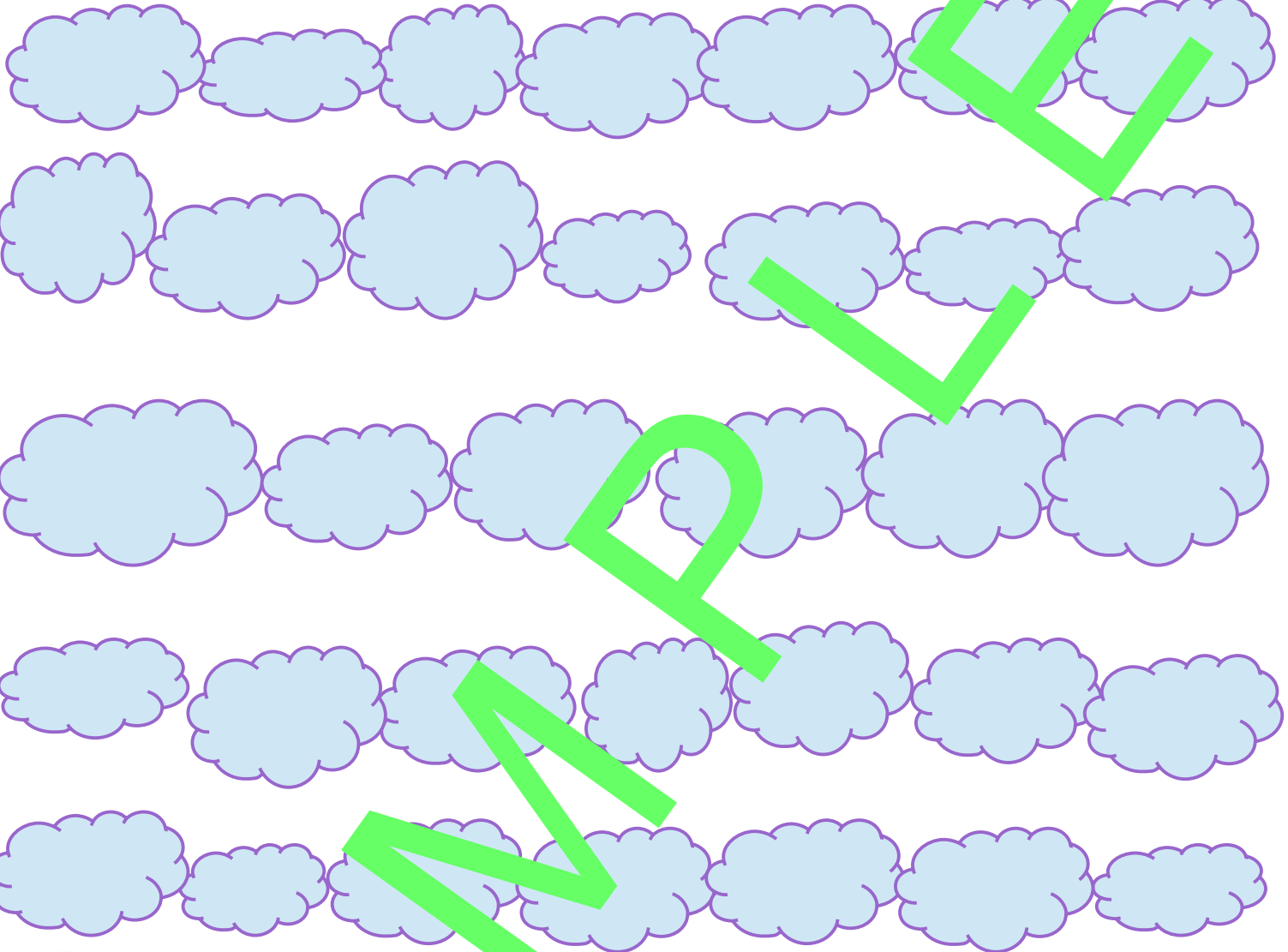
- > Old sentence: **The horse is moving.**
- > New sentence: **The old circus pony trots slow.**

Let's look at another creative example:

The wild Mustang has a quick walk

See how a simple sentence transforms into a detailed story line?
There is no limit to creative writing!

Another Thought! If you are confined to your desk, pull out a piece of paper and brainstorm words. Here are some sentence clouds. Place selected words from your brainstorming here. Turn your words into a creative story.



Idea! Use the clouds to brainstorm any idea. Write words, phrases, letters, or numbers in the clouds. Cut them out. Move the clouds around until you achieve results. The sky is not the limit!

Thought! When doing this exercise do not initially worry about sentence syntax. Just create words that come to mind. Play—don't be perfect. After you establish your sentence then go back and correct punctuation, grammar, spelling, and verb tense to clean it up.

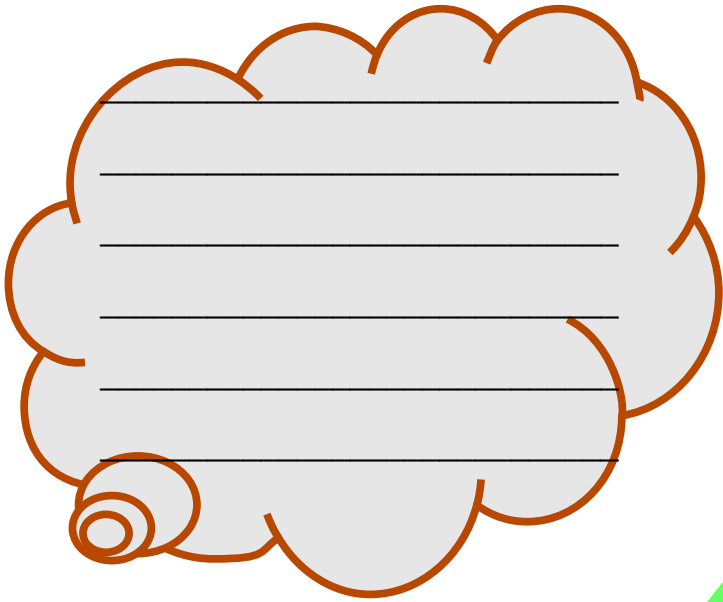
Practice Makes
Perfect!

Next Up
Practice Templates
With Practice
Sentences

A

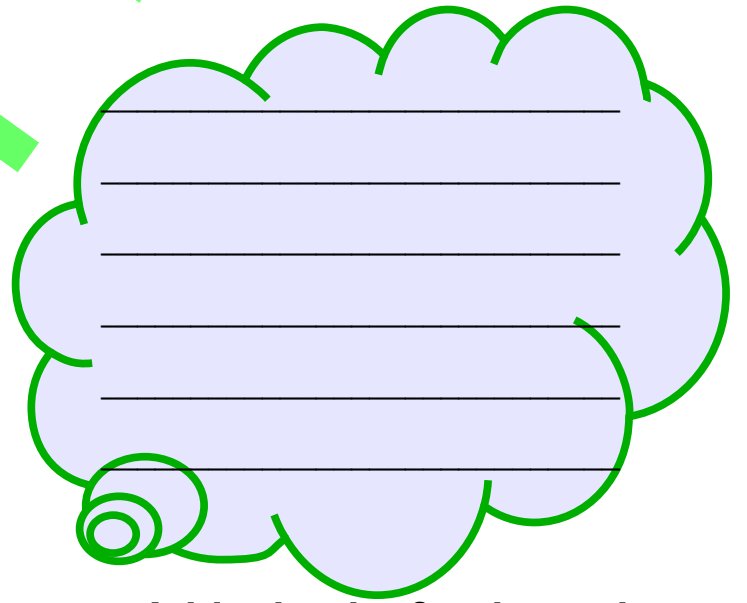
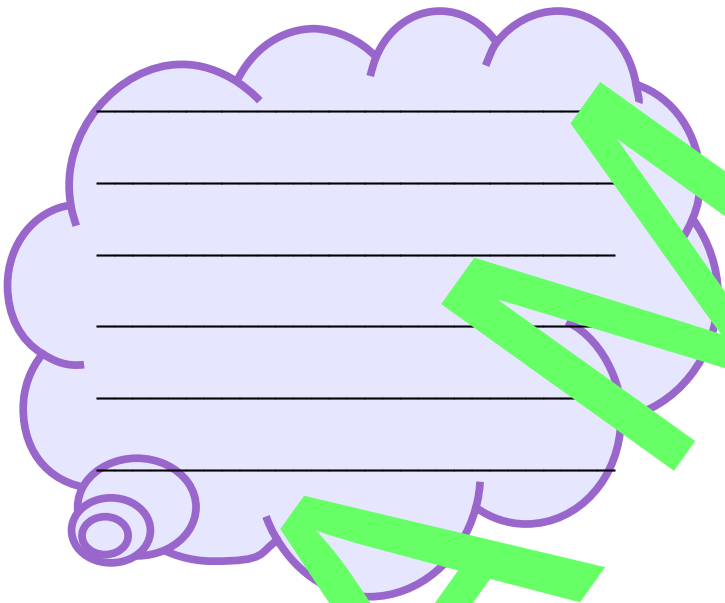
S

Practice Sentence: The clouds in the sky are moving.



**The Noun is: _____
Substitute words for the noun.**

**The Verb is: _____
Substitute words for the verb.**

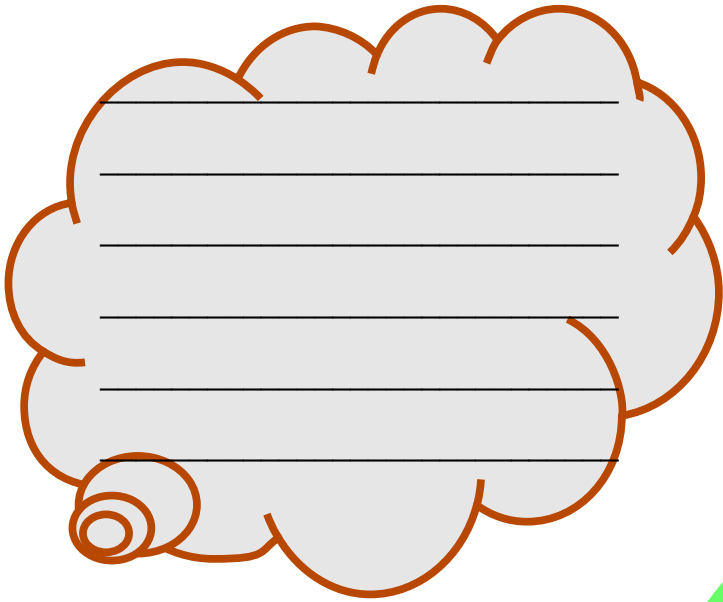


Add adjectives for the noun.

Add adverbs for the verb.

Rewrite the sentence creating three different statements.

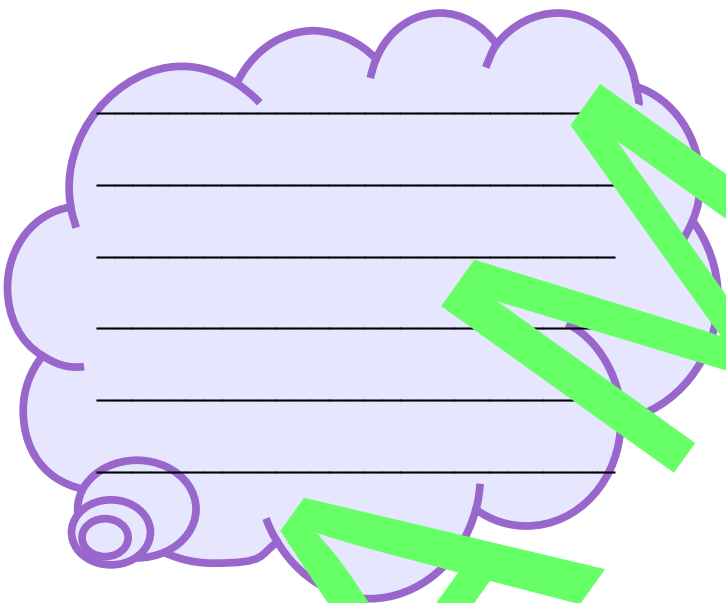
Make up your own practice sentence: _____



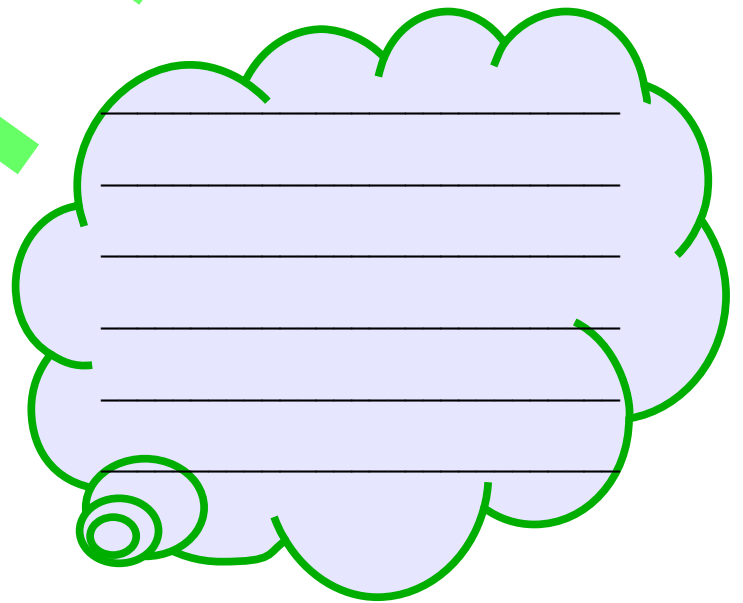
The Noun is: _____
Substitute the noun.



The Verb is: _____
Substitute the verb.



Add adjectives to the noun.



Add adverbs for the verb.

Rewrite your sentence twice describing nouns or verbs with color words.

More Practice
Makes Perfect!

Next
All Cloud
Templates

SAMPLE

Use this as a template and copy as needed. Cut out the individual clouds. Write nouns, verbs, adverbs, and adjectives—one word in each cloud. Play with the arrangement of the clouds to make a variety of sentences. The small clouds are already filled in as these are common words used in many sentences. Make more small clouds for your use too.

Double up!! Write words on both sides of the clouds if you are using a table top instead of a wall board.

IS THE OF IF A

THEN AS TO AND ARE

THIS OR BUT THAT SO

(empty) (empty) (empty) (empty) (empty)

(large S) (medium) (large)

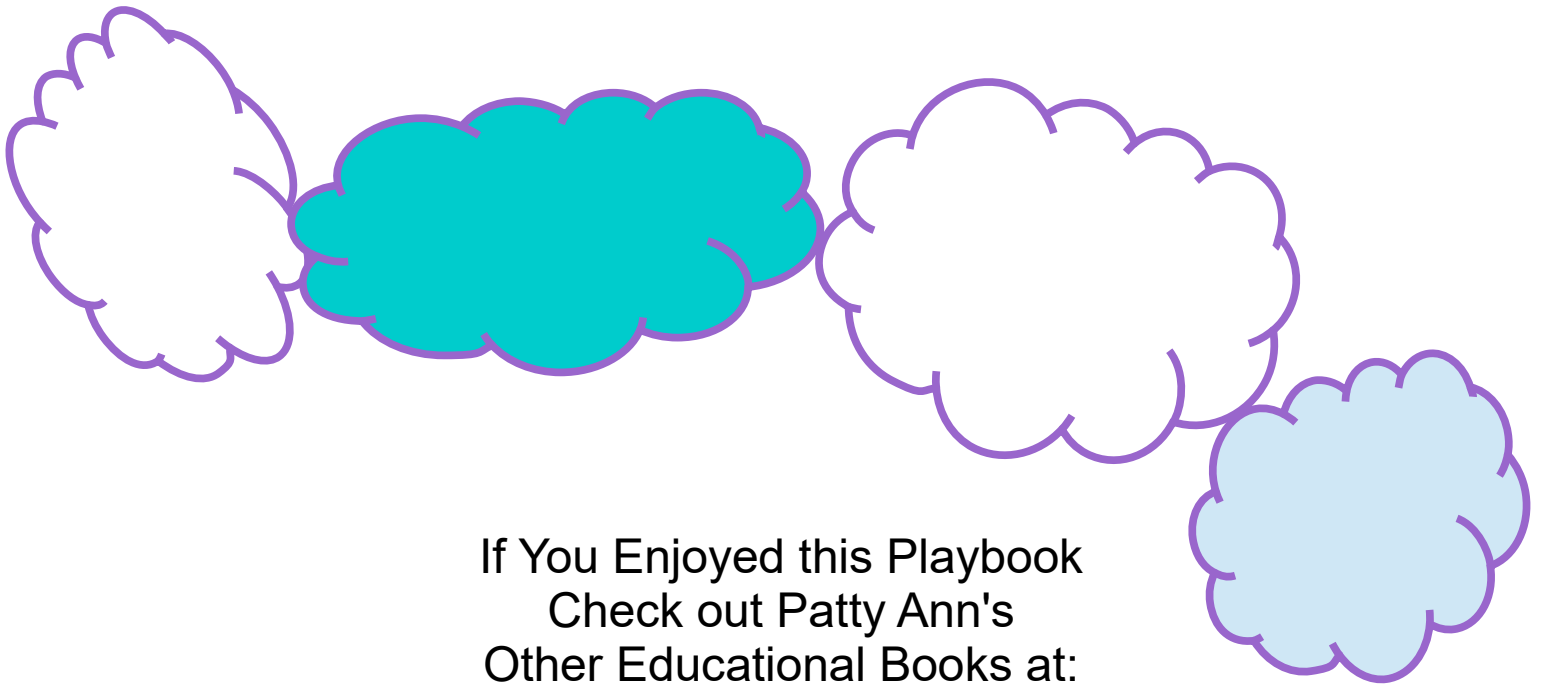






Thank YOU

For Previewing this Lesson Plan.



If You Enjoyed this Playbook
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Other Educational Books at:
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