



Use these tips and tricks to enhance your writing.

1. Start your answer with a question that includes the word 'you'. E.g. Exam question - Describe yourself: *Have you ever looked at yourself closely in the mirror?* Exam question - Give students advice about how to spend their long summer holiday: *Do you get bored easily?*
2. Start two sentences with *-ing* words. E.g. *Hurrying round the corner ... Thinking it over*
3. Start three sentences with words chosen from this list: *if, although, while, during, whenever, despite*, or other words like them. E.g. *If you can't think of how to start a sentence ... ; While I was staring vacantly out of the window ...*
4. Use a combination of long and short sentences. Try hard to use some short sentences! E.g. *You might think that long, twisting, turning sentences are always the best way of expressing yourself. They aren't.*
5. Try not to use these words: *and, then*. Don't use *and then*.
6. Use clear paragraphs.
7. Use a colon and a semi-colon; they impress examiners and they make your writing more concise, but make sure you know how to use them properly.
8. Try not to use pronouns; they confuse us and make you sound vague.
9. Try to spell correctly, but use ~~adventurus~~ adventurous words even if you're not sure how to spell them.
10. Use occasional interesting adjectives and adverbs, e.g. *he swept the vast floor lovingly.*
11. Use a couple of similes and metaphors, e.g. *His face was like a half-squeezed orange* (simile). *His face was a half-squeezed orange* (metaphor). *He caressed the floor with his broom* (metaphor).
12. Write neatly and not too large. If you can't stick to those rules then only write on every other line.
13. Like this.

