AIDS FOR ALPHABETIZING SENTENCES (SENTENCE VARIETY)

1. Start with an adverb.

Carefully she adjusted her speed.

2. Start with a prepositional phrase.

After lunch, he was sleepy.

3. Begin with a conjunction.

But the Tabasco was just too hot.

4. Begin with an adjective.

Worse yet, there was nothing cold to drink.

5. Start with a preposition followed by a gerund.

Before lying down, she took a sleeping pill.

6. Start with a present participial phrase.

Looking at the mug shots, Jane identified the thief.

7. Use a past participial phrase.

Stunned by her appearance, he stood speechless.

8. Use a verb first.

Had she not been a lady, she would have punched him.

9. Start with a noun clause.

What he did not know was the address.

10. Start with a subordinate conjunction.

Until she decided to become a nurse, she stayed at home.

11. Begin with an infinitive.

To make all A's, Kris made education her top priority.

12. Use an absolute phrase at the end of a sentence.

The divers leaped from the pier, their bodies gleaming in the sun.

13. Use a relative clause in the middle of a sentence.

Chocolate, which I now dearly hate, once gave me diarrhea.

14. Start with a direct object.

Gertrude I do not like.

15. Use direct quotations where it seems natural and fitting. "Everyone is doing it," you say, "well, not me."

16. Use "There is" and "There are" sparingly.

Replace "There are many types of fish here." With

"Many types of fish swim here."

17. Alternate short and long sentences.

18. Use a conjunctive adverb.

I am a red-blooded American girl; however, I hate chocolate.

19. Include an appositive.

Jill, the "run-around-Sue" of Gordon College, is not to be trusted.

20. Incorporate semicolons.

Chocolate is my favorite; vanilla is next.