Sentence Structure

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Type of sentence structure* | *Examples* | *Effect* |
| Fragment – an incomplete sentence | “Kind of makes you think.”“The jerk.” | -casual, informal-conversational-sometimes startling-causes the reader to stop-often used in contrast to longer sentences-a series of fragments helps to create a rough, uncomfortable tone |
| Short sentence – usually one subject, one verb | “We went.”“You could hear the train.” | -when used after or in the middle of a series of long sentences, the contrast can add emphasis to the idea in the short sentence-moves action along quickly when combined with several other short sentences-can create a blunt, harsh tone |
| Long sentence – multiple subjects or multiple verbs | “When we were younger, Gene used to make me go beserk by holding me under the covers, or stuffing a pillow in my face, or locking me in the garage whenever he got the chance.” | -adds descriptive details-can create atmosphere-can build suspense |