

APSU Writing Center
Practice Concise Writing

What is considered concise writing?

- concise is defined as an adjective that expresses or covers much in few words; brief in form but comprehensive in scope.

Why should we write concisely?

- It is important to write concisely to maintain your audience's attention, build clarity, and avoid repetition.

Practice making concise sentences

- The best way to remember any common writing error is with practice.
- Read through the sentences below and draw a line through repeated text.
- Write down on a separate piece of paper your new sentences.
- The answers are on the back of this handout.

How can the sentence be more concise?

1. I really want to be a doctor.
2. He was in a confused state.
3. The scene was extremely typical.
4. The friar is knowledgeable about Juliet being alive.
5. Frequently, a chapter in a book reveals to the reader the main point that the author desires to bring out during the course of the chapter.
6. It is frequently considered that Hamlet is Shakespeare's most puzzling play.
7. It is recommended that every single student registered at Austin Peay State University should schedule appointments with tutors who tutor writing.
8. Maria decided it was finally time for her to take out her papers and get started on her homework.
9. I took my cat to the vet who was an animal doctor.
10. I just wish that I had a piece of chocolate.

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Practice Using Commas

ANSWER KEY

How can the sentence be more concise?

1. I want to be a doctor.
2. He was confused.
3. The scene was typical.
4. The friar knows that Juliet is alive.
5. A chapter's title often reveals its thesis.
6. Hamlet is frequently considered Shakespeare's most puzzling play.
7. All Austin Peay State University students should schedule appointments with writing tutors.
8. Maria decided it was time to start her homework.
9. I took my cat to the vet.
10. I wish I had a piece of chocolate.

Reference

The Writing Center. (2023). *Writing Concisely*. George Mason University.
<https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/writing-resources/general-writing-practices/writing-concisely>