

## Writing Swap Shop

### Idea 1

#### Making sentences more complex (academic? natural? dense?).

This is adapted from an activity on esl.about.com. In pairs, small groups (you know how it all works) etc. get students to do the activity. Afterwards, great to discuss why some / patterns were chosen / compare with teacher's etc. The sentences can be joined in any combination - not necessarily as they are grouped below.

*Write a complex paragraph using the simple sentences below.*

- His name is Stanley.
- He's a teenager.
- He is in a detention centre.
- The name of the detention centre is Camp Green Lake.
- He is unhappy in the camp.
- The work is hard.
- Mr Sir is very unkind.
- Mr. Sir has quit smoking and eats a lot of sunflower seeds.
- He didn't have friends at first.
- He has to work in the sun.
- The sun is very hot.
- He gets very thirsty.
- Life in the camp is tough
- He made some friends.
- Zero is his friend.
- X-ray is his friend.
- X-ray is the leader of the group of boys.
- He has got stronger.
- He feels like he belongs.
- There are a lot of bad things at the Camp.
- He misses his mum.
- He is more positive now than at the start.

*Write below (an example is given on the back) then compare with another pair's work.*

**Teacher's example (Much better to do your own version so you are aware of why you chose certain words.)**

Stanley is a teenager **who** has been sent to a detention centre **called** Camp Green Lake. He is unhappy at the camp, **as both** the work is hard **and** Mr Sir, **who** has quit smoking and eats a lot of sunflower seeds, is very unkind. **Moreover**, he didn't have friends at first, **and as** he has to work in the hot sun, he gets really thirsty. Life in the camp is tough. **However**, he did make some new friends: **for example**, Zero **and** X-Ray, **who** is the leader of the group of boys. **In addition**, he has got stronger, **and** he feels he belongs. **Despite the fact that** there are a lot of bad things at the camp, **and** that he misses his mum, he is more positive now than at the start.