

# Writing Is Hard ?!

**Grammatically correct is not adequate!**

***Construct each sentence with proper focus and emphasis.***

***Make proper transitions between sentences to make the text flow.***

# Constructing a Sentence

**Subject**

**Verb**

**Stress Position**

The **subject** is what is being discussed/described.

The **verb** articulates the action.

The **stress position** provides clue to the emphasis of the sentence.

# Constructing a Sentence

**Subject**

**Verb**

**Stress Position**

The **subject** is what is being discussed/described.

For example:

**Stars** are formed from molecular clouds.

**Molecular clouds** are needed to form stars.

**The formation of stars** requires molecular clouds.

# Constructing a Sentence

**Subject**

**Verb**

**Stress Position**

The **verb** articulates the action.

For example:

There **are** six WR stars in the R136 cluster.

The R136 cluster **contains** six WR stars.

Six WR stars **are found** in the R136 cluster.

Six WR stars **exist** in the R136 cluster.

# Constructing a Sentence

**Subject**

**Verb**

**Stress Position**

The **stress position** provides clue to the emphasis of the sentence.

For example:

M82 is an interesting galaxy, which hosts active star formation.

M82 is an interesting galaxy because of its active star formation.

# Constructing a Sentence

**Subject**

**Verb**

**Stress Position**

*A subject should be followed by the verb as soon as possible.*

~~The Helix Nebula, which is the second nearest planetary nebula and whose central star is a hot white dwarf showing both X-ray and mid-IR emission, has been analyzed.~~

We have analyzed the Helix Nebula, which...

# Constructing a Sentence

**Subject**

**Verb**

**Stress Position**

*A sentence should have only one clear stress position, i.e. making a single point.*

***Run-on sentence !!!***

# Linking Sentences Together

**Topic Position**

**Verb**

**Stress Position**

The topic position establishes a perspective for viewing the sentence as a unit. It should provide the linkage (looking backward) and context (looking forward).



# Linking Sentences Together

**Topic Position**

**Verb**

**Stress Position**

*Put in the topic position the old information that links backward; put in the stress position the new information you want the reader to emphasize.*

# Avoid Empty Sentences

Examples of *first sentence in the introduction section of a paper on star formation*:

**Star formation is the most important topic in astronomy.**

**Star formation is one of the most important topics in astronomy.**

**Star formation plays an important role in the evolution of a galaxy.**