

Day 3: Story Writing Read the following quote by Gary Provost. Then choose a story that you have written for one of your Yearbook spreads and revise your story, focusing on well-chosen details and varying your sentence length as Provost illustrates. Be prepared to show the before/after story to the yearbook staff during the week of April 22nd.

“This sentence has five words. Here are five more words. Five-word sentences are fine. But several together become monotonous. Listen to what is happening. The writing is getting boring. The sound of it drones. It’s like a stuck record. The ear demands some variety. Now listen. I vary the sentence length, and I create music. Music. The writing sings. It has a pleasant rhythm, a lilt, a harmony. I use short sentences. And I use sentences of medium length. And sometimes, when I am certain the reader is rested, I will engage him with a sentence of considerable length, a sentence that burns with energy and builds with all the impetus of a crescendo, the roll of the drums, the crash of the cymbals — sounds that say listen to this, it is important.”

— Gary Provost