

UNIVERSITY WRITING PROGRAM

ACADEMIC STYLE: WORD CHOICE EXERCISES

1. Rewrite these sentences according to the principles of word choice and avoiding the common mistakes outlined on the “Word Choice” handout.

- a. It is worthwhile to first consider the theories of various fantasists regarding their genre. What seems abundantly clear is correct world-building is imperative to the genre.

- b. Imparting an impression of perfection in the reader is a plausible step down from the theoretical perfection a fantasist strives for. This is necessary to keep in mind, then, when considering which techniques are used to deliver upon this striving for perfection.

- c. It is now worth concretely considering why Tolkien’s conceptions for his books are so conducive to the execution of their filmic adaptation. To do so, I will begin again with theoretical consideration particularly on the process of adapting a novel to film.

2. All underlined words have the same denotation, but different connotations. Write the different connotations of each underlined word.

The roses climbed the trellis. _____

The roses adorned the trellis. _____

The roses strangled the trellis. _____

She was a compulsive reader. _____

She was a critical reader. _____

She was a perceptive reader. _____

The children were sleepy. _____

The children were exhausted. _____

The children were weary. _____

The reef appeared beneath the surface. _____

The reef loomed beneath the surface. _____

The reef glimmered beneath the surface. _____

3. The following sentences have unclear pronoun antecedents. Rewrite them so that the meaning is clear.

1. Lizzy told her mother that her sweater had a hole in it.

2. When Alexander drove the car through the garage door, he badly damaged it.

3. Cathy was surprised she had been voted president by her classmates who never had much self-confidence.

4. Rewrite each phrase to be more concise.

I came to the realization that	
She is of the opinion that	
Concerning the matter of	
During the course of	
In the event that	
In the process of	
Regardless of the fact that	
Due to the fact that	
In all cases	
At that point in time	
Prior to	

Credit: Adapted from Kalee Hall, University Writing Center

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