

Cumulative Sentence Exercise

Add at least three free modifiers to these main clauses, varying the position of the modifiers. Try to include as much sensory detail as possible.

- 1. Four women in red walked to the podium
- 2. Then I heard the siren blare
- 3. She raised her hand
- 4. The feather bed beckoned me
- 5. Five sparrows huddled near the bird bath
- 6. The speaker paused
- 7. Joan could play the piano for hours
- 8. The old man's eye remained fixed on me
- 9. Ocean swells moved rhythmically toward us
- 10. The little girl stood at the top of the stairs

Compare your cumulative sentences with someone else's, considering the kinds of details each of you added to the main clause.