

1. To arouse and maintain interest through suspense.
2. To give dignity of style to long sentences and polish and finish to short ones.

✓ The loose sentence is one that may be brought to a close at one or more points before the end without marring its grammatical structure. It is specially adapted to all kinds of informal discourse; for example, easy narrative, conversation, and letter-writing.

✓ The balanced sentence is one in which similarity or contrast of thought is set off by similarity of structure. The effect is to make each element of thought more striking. But, as the structure of this type of sentence is decidedly elaborate, care should be taken not to employ it to excess.

But, whatever may be the form of the particular sentence we are writing, the three great principles of unity, coherence, and emphasis must be observed just as they are in the case of the whole composition and of the paragraph.

I. The principle of unity demands that all parts of the sentence, whether words, phrases, or clauses, shall contribute definitely to the one main assertion. When a sentence may be resolved into a single subject with its modifiers properly related, and a single predicate with its modifiers also properly related, it possesses unity. Sentences not thus reducible often lack it. Clearly then, to secure unity, we should, as far as possible, avoid an accumulation of either subjects or predicates or any unnecessary change in the form of either the subject or the predicate.

II. The principle of coherence demands that the relation of each word, phrase, and clause, to the context shall be unmistakable. To secure this close relation-