

Writing Clearly

!

Clarity can be difficult to achieve. When you're first becoming comfortable with academic prose, it can be tempting to try to make your sentences sound sophisticated. Unfortunately, this sometimes backfires and shields your good ideas in overly complicated syntax.

" Adapted from Rosenwasser and Stephen's *Writing Analytically* and Hacker and Sommers' *A Pocket Style Manual*

!

Writing Clearly

!

be an amendment to the law that allows those who would have benefited, but were deported before the law was passed, to be allowed to come back to the United States.

3. Replace “to be” verbs with descriptive, active verbs.

!

Writing Clearly

!

- ❖ And we use phrases beginning with *-ing* words (participles), which also modify.
 - the chapter *containing the examples*
 - *hanging from the skylight*, the plumber

Occasionally, writers forget to place modifiers and participles near the subjects that they modify, resulting in confusing and illogical sentences.

Example: King Laius approached the intersection of three roads in a chariot.

In a chariot, King Laius approached the intersection of three roads.

!