

## Teaching Notes

The goal of L.6.3.A is for students to learn to vary the sentence patterns they commonly use in their writing. Students should be able to use simple, compound, and complex sentence structures and vary the placement of subjects and predicates within their sentences. The following information contains ideas that teachers can incorporate into their classroom as well as additional resources to peruse and integrate into instruction as appropriate.

### Activities

1. Provide students with books from the classroom, and have them review the books in pairs. Ask them to open the book to a random page and identify each sentence as simple, compound, or complex. Then, ask them to comment on the author's use of varied sentence patterns.
2. Ask students to write out a section of dialogue from one of their favorite movies, television shows, or plays. They may also make up dialogue between the characters. Have them write the text in paragraph form, with a varied use of presenting the dialogue. Their papers should include a varied use of words to replace *said* as well as a variety of patterns in which the dialogue appears at the beginning, middle, or end of the sentence.

### Differentiation Ideas

1. For students who tend to use the same sentence patterns in all of their work, underline sentences that should change in some way. Then, return the paper to the student and ask him or her to revise it however he or she feels is appropriate so that the sentence patterns are varied.
2. Challenge students who have a good grasp on using a variety of sentence patterns to look through classroom books and find an example of an author who uses good sentence patterns. Have that student summarize for a small group why using a variety of sentence patterns adds interest to a story, using the book to share specific examples.

### Additional Resources

Consider these additional resources when teaching L.6.3.A:

- <http://www.helpsteaching.com/questions/CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.3a>
- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/573/01/>
- <http://www.brighthubeducation.com/high-school-english-lessons/14103-sentence-structure-lesson-plan/>
- <http://www.k12reader.com/subject/composition/sentence-patterns/>
- [http://www.eslprintables.com/grammar\\_worksheets/sentence\\_construction/sentence\\_patterns/](http://www.eslprintables.com/grammar_worksheets/sentence_construction/sentence_patterns/)