

Name _____ Date _____

Suspect Under Surveillance: The Boring Sentence

There's more than one way to tie a knot,
Stir a pot, get too hot.

There's more than one way to stop a fight,
Make a kite, WRITE, WRITE, WRITE!

There's more than one way to roller-skate,
Make a date, navigate.

There's more than one way to measure height,
See at night, WRITE, WRITE, WRITE!



DETECT! What message is Inspector Clue-So sending in his poem? What does he mean when he says, "There's more than one way to WRITE, WRITE, WRITE"? Perhaps these sentences will give you a clue:

1. When Inspector Clue-So found the missing word, he shouted, "Jumping kumquats!"
2. "Jumping kumquats!" shouted Inspector Clue-So after he found the missing word.
3. Inspector Clue-So found the missing word and shouted, "Jumping kumquats!"
4. Finding the missing word, Inspector Clue-So shouted, "Jumping kumquats!"

Obviously, the meaning is the same in each of the sentences. The difference lies in the way each sentence is arranged. Good writers vary the way they arrange words in sentences.

SOLVE! Clue-so is bored with these sentences. Rearrange and revise the sentences to make them sound different.

1. "She went that way!" shouted the angry store owner. _____
2. The guilty suspect evaded detection by hiding in a large trash can. _____
3. Margo the Hound was hot on her trail later in the day. _____
4. Margo the Hound smelled the trash-can odor and rushed right to the suspect who was hiding in a crowd of people. _____
5. "Give that hound a badge!" exclaimed the Inspector as he put handcuffs on the suspect. _____

From the Inspector's Casebook of Trivia: Two words, *of* and *the*, make up approximately 14% of all printed language.