**Revising Stringy & Choppy Sentences**

**Exercise A: Revising stringy sentences to make two or more shorter sentences.**

1. Daniel hurriedly packed his books, and he quickly put on his coat, and he raced down the stairs, for he was meeting his friend Charles after school, and they were going shopping for computer games, and they wanted to get to the store at least an hour before it closed.

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2. Emily knew she could spend the afternoon chatting with her friend Alexandra, or she could help her mother weed the garden and tend the plants, but instead she chose to spend the time alone in her room, for she wanted to write in her diary.

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3. Anita was getting ready to leave for school when Helen called to tell her not to forget her American history project, which was due on the teacher’s desk the first thing in the morning, even though history class didn’t meet until later that afternoon.

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4. My cousin, who attends college in Massachusetts, is studying chemistry because he wants to work in a laboratory which is filled with interesting equipment that he can use to perform ingenious experiments that lead to improvements in our daily lives.

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**Exercise B Revising a Paragraph to Vary Sentence Length**

**Rewrite the following paragraphs using subordination to eliminate the short, choppy sentences and the stringy compound sentences.**

King Midas loved riches. He thought gold was of great importance. God granted the king his wish, and it was for an unusual power, and it was called the golden touch because everything Midas touched would turn to gold, but unfortunately that included food, and it also included his daughter, so when Midas touched her, she turned into a golden statue. Midas realized his mistake. It was based on greed. He felt sorrowful and foolish. He no longer wanted the golden touch.

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Jim Knaub lost the use of his legs in a motorcycle accident. He decided he would not let that slow him down. He started racing wheelchairs. All the other racers were using standard wheelchairs. Those wheelchairs were not fast enough for Jim. He began to design his own. Soon, his lightweight, ultrafast wheelchair was winning races. He became a well-known wheelchair-racing champion. Jim now designs wheelchairs for others to use.

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We look back over the history of literature, and we find superheroes in abundance, and the superheroes fought villains endowed with fantastic powers. One of the earliest heroes in the history of Western literature was Ulysses, and he had to overcome many supernatural beings, and one of these was Polyphemus, and he was a giant with one eye. Then there was Perseus. He fought the Medusa. The Medusa was a frightening Gorgon. She had hissing snakes for hair. She turned anyone who looked directly at her into stone. Another superhero of mythology was Jason. He went in search of the Golden Fleece. He had to yoke two fire­breathing bulls. He had to yoke them to plow a field. He had to sow dragon's teeth in the field. A crop of armed men sprang up from the planted teeth, so Jason had to destroy them, but he finally defeated all the evil forces set against him, and so did all the other superheroes of mythology.

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