



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Cumulative and Periodic Sentences

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1. What is the fundamental difference between cumulative and periodic sentences in terms of how they deliver meaning?
2. Why do cumulative sentences dominate modern English prose, and how do they contribute to clarity and flow?
3. What types of writing or moments in a narrative are best suited to periodic sentences, and why?
4. How can overusing cumulative or periodic sentences negatively impact a piece of writing?
5. How can a writer decide whether to use a cumulative or periodic sentence in a given moment?
6. What practical steps can writers take to improve their use of cumulative sentences?
7. How can periodic sentences be used strategically alongside cumulative sentences to create rhythm in prose?