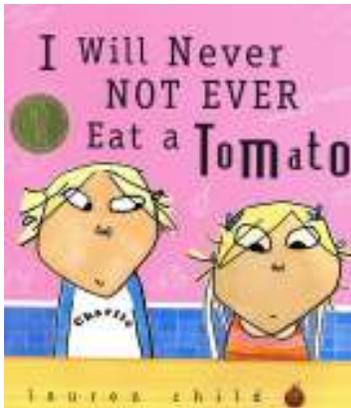


# Writing Trait: Sentence Fluency

S.D. #71

Learning intention: students will practice writing short, medium and long sentences to create a variety of sentence lengths.



By Lauren Child

## Before Reading

PLOs: A4, A5, A6, B5

Using the front cover and student background knowledge, predict what Lauren Child's book, I will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato might be about.

## During Reading

PLO: B6

As the book is read aloud, listen for the foods Lola does not like to eat. Think about how you feel about the foods that are described. Are they foods that you dislike as well, or do you like them?

## After Reading

PLOs: B6

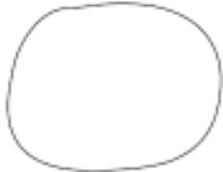
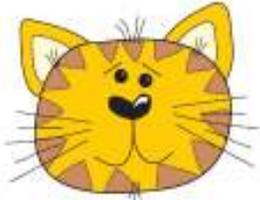
1. Turn and talk to a partner about foods that they and Lola like and dislike. Share a few of those ideas whole class. Since chocolate is quite often a favorite, the following lesson is based on that. Students should feel free to switch to another food item if chocolate does not work for them. Share a piece of writing about chocolate (maybe even share a piece of chocolate too!).
2. Have students do a quick write about chocolate. Tell them that they will be doing something afterwards with their sentences, so they will need a lot of sentences that have capitals and periods in the right places. Keep this part intentionally vague.
3. After 4 or 5 minutes of writing about chocolate, have students count the number of short, medium and long sentences they have.

**short**—1 to 3 words long;

**medium**—4 to 6 words long;

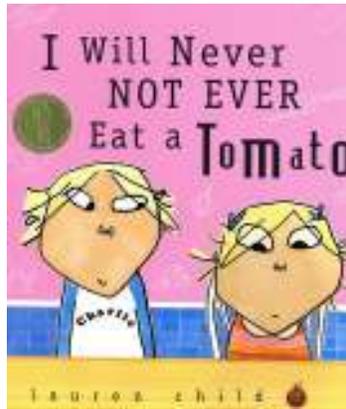
**long**— 7 or more words

Have students self assess their sentence length variety using the following rubric.

<p><i>The Traits of Writing</i></p>	 <p><i>... a start</i></p>	 <p><i>... coming along</i></p>	 <p><i>... that's it</i></p>	 <p><i>... Wow!</i></p>
<p><b><u>Sentence Fluency</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>sentence length variety</i></li> </ul>	<p>sentences are all the same length</p>	<p>most sentences are the same length. One or two are different</p>	<p>There is a mixture of short, medium and long sentences.</p>	<p>A mixture of sentence lengths sound great when read aloud!</p>

# Writing Trait: Sentence Fluency

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## ... a Writing Extension

4. Now that students are aware that a well written piece of writing should have a mixture of short, medium and long sentences, challenge them to another quick write about chocolate.

When finished, once again have students self assess their sentence length variety using the same rubric.

How many students were able to improve sentence length variety in just one lesson?

## ... another Writing Extension

Have students pretend they are Charlie. Write to Lola tricking her into eating some kind of food.

e.g. These are not brussel sprouts Lola. No, no, no. These are green soccer balls from Ireland. They only are eaten by those most likely to score the most goals. She scores!










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