

Pronouns to Avoid Repetition – Fiction

Lysias struck his knife against the hard rock and sparks flashed. He tried again, holding the rag as close as he could. It lit. Quickly, Agueda passed him the torches. One by one, they set on fire.

As the light flickered, Lysias and Agueda were able to see where they were. This first part of the cave was wide and low, and ended in a tunnel which twisted down into darkness. The soldiers who had survived were standing around a shallow pool, taking a drink. Some of them looked fearfully at the black tunnel. They knew what waited for them through there.

Lysias knew, too. Trying to stop a tremble in his voice, he ordered everyone to get ready. He then turned to Agueda, but it was she who spoke. "I don't need brave speeches," she smiled, placing a finger on his lips. "Arktos is close, so my revenge is coming. That is all I need."

Arktos was close. Lysias felt terrified at the thought. Arktos. The horrible, two-headed bear that had taken everything from Agueda and left her all alone.

The time had come. A soldier shuffled nervously. Agueda smiled. Lysias stepped into the tunnel.

1a. Write a sentence which could be added to paragraph 4. Your sentence must include at least one personal pronoun.



A

2a. Add a relative clause to this sentence from paragraph 1, including the relative pronoun 'which'.

Lysias struck his knife, _____, against the hard rock and sparks flashed.



A

3a. Safia adds a relative clause to the following sentence from paragraph 5:

Agueda smiled, which helped cover up the fear her felt inside.

She uses the personal pronoun 'her'. Has she used the correct pronoun? Explain how you know.



R

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The canyon split the forest in two. The dense branches, which had covered the group for so many days, suddenly opened up. Bright birds soared high above.

Axel groaned. “Is that the bridge the map was leading us to?” He pointed at a mess of broken ropes hanging down the far side of the gorge. “If it is, it’s not really doing its job.”

“This would be easier if we were those birds up there, wouldn’t it?” wondered Sara, staring upwards.

“I always knew this was going to go wrong,” grumbled Luis. “I just knew it. Why did I even come? Now we’re stuck and we’re never going to find the Valley of Gold!”

Elena rolled her eyes. Sometimes it was just easier to solve a problem by yourself. She took out the rope from her pack and tied it tightly to one of her arrows.

Luis was still grumbling. “... walking for days through sticky jungle. What for? I should have stayed...”

The arrow, which had a hooked end, flew out across the canyon. It stuck in the branches of a tree on the far side. Elena tugged the rope to test its strength, before turning to the others. “Coming?”

1b. Write a sentence which could be added to paragraph 5. Your sentence must include at least one personal pronoun.



A

2b. Add a relative clause to this sentence from paragraph 2, including the relative pronoun ‘who’.

Axel, _____, groaned.



A

3b. Omar adds a relative clause to the following sentence from paragraph 6:

Luis, whose feet were hurting his, was still grumbling.

He uses the personal pronoun ‘his’. Has he used the correct pronoun? Explain how you know.



R

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Lysias struck his knife against the hard rock and sparks flashed in the half-light of the cave entrance. He tried a second time, holding the oily rag as close as he could. It lit. Quickly, Agueda passed him the torches. One by one, they blazed into life.

As the new light flickered around the cave, Lysias and Agueda were able to check their position. This first section of the cave was wide and low, and finished in a tight tunnel which twisted downwards into darkness. The soldiers who had survived the shipwreck were gathered around a shallow pool, taking a final drink before the hunt began. Some of them glanced fearfully at the black mouth of the tunnel. They knew what waited for them through there, down in the gloomy deep.

Lysias knew, too. Fighting to control a tremble in his voice, he ordered everyone to get ready. He turned to Agueda to encourage her, but it was she who spoke. "I don't need brave speeches or strong words," she smiled, placing a finger on his lips. "Arkto's is close, so my revenge is coming. That is all I need."

Arkto's was close. Lysias felt his blood go cold at the thought. Arkto's. Terror of the Pierian Mountains. Curse of the gods. The dreadful, two-headed bear that had taken everything from Agueda and left her grieving and alone.

The time had come. A soldier shuffled nervously. Agueda smiled. Lysias stepped into the tunnel.

4a. Write a sentence which could be added to paragraph 4. Your sentence must include at least 2 personal pronouns.



A

5a. Rewrite one sentence from paragraph 1 to include the relative pronoun 'which'.



A

6a. Marcus adds a relative clause to the following sentence from paragraph 5:

A soldier, which had never faced danger like this before, shuffled nervously.

He uses the relative pronoun 'which'. Has he used the correct relative pronoun? Explain how you know.



R

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The canyon split the forest in two. The dense cover of branches, which had lain unbroken above the group for so many days, suddenly gave way to bright sky. Exotic birds soared high above.

Axel groaned. “Is that meant to be the bridge the map was leading us to?” He pointed at a mess of broken ropes and rotten boards which dangled uselessly down the far side of the gorge. “If it is, it’s not really doing its job, is it?”

“This whole journey would be a lot easier if we were those birds up there, wouldn’t it?” wondered Sara, who stared upwards dreamily.

“I always knew this journey was going to end in failure,” grumbled Luis. “I just knew it. Why did I even come? Now we’re stuck, miles away from any form of help, and we’re never going to find the Valley of Gold!”

Elena rolled her eyes as Luis muttered on. Sometimes, she thought, it was just easier to get on and solve a problem by yourself. She uncoiled the rope from her pack and attached it tightly to the shaft of one of her arrows.

Luis was still grumbling. “... wandering for days through sticky jungle. What for? I should have stayed...”

The arrow, which had a special hooked end, zipped out across the canyon. It snagged in the branches of a tree on the far side. Elena tugged the rope to test its strength, before turning to the others. “Coming?”

4b. Write a sentence which could be added to paragraph 5. Your sentence must include at least 2 personal pronouns



A

5b. Rewrite one sentence from paragraph 2 to include the relative pronoun ‘who’.



A

6b. Sienna adds a relative clause to the following sentence from paragraph 5:

Elena, whom patience was being severely tested, rolled her eyes as Luis muttered on.

She uses the relative pronoun ‘whom’. Has she used the correct relative pronoun? Explain how you know.



R

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Eager to expose anything that might be hiding in the inky depths before him, Lysias struck his knife against the flint and sparks flashed in the half-light of the cave entrance. At the second attempt, with Agueda holding it as close as possible, the oil-soaked rag ignited. She immediately touched it to each of the waiting torches, scorching her fingers as they blazed into life.

As the new light danced around the cave, Lysias and Agueda were finally able to assess their situation. This initial cavern was wide and low, and at its end shrank to a tight tunnel which twisted downwards into darkness. The soldiers who had survived the shipwreck were clustered around a stagnant pool, quenching their thirst before the hunt ahead. Several of them glanced fearfully at the tunnel's gaping, gulping mouth. They knew what horror awaited them through there, down in the gloomy deep.

Lysias knew, too. Struggling to control an unexpected quiver in his voice, he ordered everyone to make their preparations. He turned to Agueda, feeling he ought to offer some sort of encouragement, but instead it was she who spoke. "I don't need courageous speeches or noble words," she smiled, placing a finger on his lips. "Arktos is close; therefore my revenge is at hand. That is all I require."

Arktos was close. Lysias' blood ran cold at the thought. Arktos. Terror of the Pierian Mountains. Curse of the gods. The ghastly two-headed bear that all those years earlier had taken everything from Agueda and left her abandoned in grief.

The time had come. A soldier shuffled nervously from foot to foot. Agueda smiled a calm and dangerous smile. Lysias stepped into the tunnel.

7a. Write a sentence which could be added to paragraph 4. Your sentence must include at least 2 personal and/or possessive pronouns.



A

8a. Rewrite one sentence from paragraph 1 to include the relative pronoun 'which' and the personal pronoun 'he'.



A

9a. Keisha adds a relative clause to the following sentence from paragraph 5:

A soldier, that was very inexperienced and had never encountered danger like this before, shuffled nervously from foot to foot.

She uses the relative pronoun 'that'. Has she used the correct relative pronoun? Explain how you know.



R

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The canyon carved a winding path through the forest, splitting it in two. The dense canopy of branches, which for so many days had lain unbroken above the group like a great green blanket, suddenly broke open to reveal a ribbon of bright blue sky. Exotic birds wheeled high above.

Axel groaned. “Is that mess over there supposed to be the bridge the map was directing us to?” He pointed at a miserable tangle of broken ropes and rotten boards which dangled uselessly down the far side of the gorge. “If it is, it’s not really doing its job, is it?”

“This whole expedition would be a great deal simpler if we could transform into those birds up there, wouldn’t it?” wondered Sara, who stared upwards dreamily.

“I always knew this trek was destined to end in failure,” grumbled Luis. “I just knew it. Why did I let myself be persuaded to come on such a foolish trip? Now we’re stuck, miles away from civilisation, and we’re never going to find the Valley of Gold!”

Elena rolled her eyes as Luis muttered on. Sometimes, she thought, if you wanted a problem solving, it was just easier to get on and solve it by yourself. She uncoiled the rope from her pack and attached it securely to the shaft of one of her arrows.

Luis was still rambling on. “... wandering pointlessly for days on end through this disgusting sauna of a jungle. For what purpose, now? I knew I should have stayed...”

The arrow, which had a tip shaped like a grappling hook, zipped out across the canyon and snagged in the knotted branches of a tree on the far side. Elena tugged roughly on the rope to test its strength, before turning to the others. “Coming?”

7b. Write a sentence which could be added to paragraph 5. Your sentence must include at least 2 personal and/or possessive pronouns.



A

8b. Rewrite one sentence from paragraph 2 to include the relative pronoun ‘who’ and the personal pronoun ‘they’.



A

9b. Gurvinder adds a relative clause to the following sentence from paragraph 5:

Elena rolled her eyes as Luis, who black mood and negativity was in danger of devouring them all, muttered on.

He uses the relative pronoun ‘who’. Has he used the correct relative pronoun? Explain how you know.



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