Assignment 5 Worksheet - Chapter 5 *“Taking Out the Guesswork: Eliminating Ambiguity”*

1. In what two ways does the “guessing game” created by ambiguity impact reader comprehension?

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1. Demonstrate your understanding of revision indicators in Chapter 5 of *The Second Draft* by creating your own examples. Use the sample sentences in the chapter as models.

Revision Indicator #11 - Pronouns have multiple possible antecedents

Write a sentence that needs to be revised because it contains a pronoun with multiple possible antecedents.

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Now, revise the above sentence by replacing the ambiguous pronoun with a specific referent noun.

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Revision Indicator #12 - Pronouns have no antecedent

Write a sentence that needs to be revised because it contains a pronoun with no antecedent in the sentence.

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Now, revise the above sentence so that a clear antecedent is included in the sentence.

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Revision Indicator #13 - Modifying phrases or clauses have been misplaced

Write a sentence that needs to be revised because it contains a misplaced modifying prepositional phrase, relative clause, or “dangling” modifier. Indicate which error you are illustrating with your example.

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Now, revise the above sentence by moving modifying phrases or clauses close to the noun they describe, using a less ambiguous word/phrase/clause, or rewording the sentence to reduce ambiguity. Indicate which revision strategy you used.

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Revision Indicator #14 - A “Squinting” modifier has created ambiguity

Write a sentence that needs to be revised because a “squinting” modifier has created ambiguity.

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Now, revise the above sentence by moving the “squinting” modifier to a location in the sentence that resolves the ambiguity.

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Revision Indicator #15 - An adjective has been misplaced in a string of modifiers

Write a sentence in which an adjective has been misplaced in a string of modifiers, creating ambiguity.

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Now, revise the sentence by changing the order of the modifiers to resolve the ambiguity.

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Revision Indicator #16 - Inconsistent terminology is creating ambiguity

Write at least two sentences in which inconsistent terminology creates ambiguity.

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Now, resolve the ambiguity by using consistent terminology.

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