Name: Date:

WORKSHEET:



Precision of words and concise language in the absence of redundant text can help to simplify and clarify your writing.

Directions: Underline the unnecessary words or phrases below:

Example: They were large in size. Answer: They were large in size.

- 1. The members of the Student Council will come up with a final decision through a vote next week at an open meeting.
- 2. The twins were both alike; each had curly blonde hair, a rosy complexion, and pretty features.
- 3. It is absolutely essential to include vanilla in the recipe alongside other ingredients.
- 4. Debbie did a lot of research on the case at law school and she previously found that the responsible party was found not guilty
- 5. The vote for the new board member was not completely unanimous when Dr. Roberts refused to go along with the others.

Write a new, more concise sentence excluding the underlined expletive or other phrase that can be similified.

- 6. There are weaknesses with the plan.
- 7. There are not any reasons to make that decision.
- 8. The youth, all old enough to know better, got into trouble and were arrested.
- 9. The woman Geoffrey dated had to be careful to avoid his wife.
- 10. Some soldiers refused to obey orders and left behind their comrades in the firefight.

ANSWERS:



Precision of words and concise language in the absence of redundant text can help to simplify and clarify your writing.

Directions: Underline the unnecessary words or phrases below:

Example: They were large in size. Answer: They were large in size.

- 1. The members of the Student Council <u>will come up with</u> a final decision <u>through a vote</u> next week at an open meeting.
- 2. The twins were <u>both</u> alike; each had curly blonde hair, a rosy complexion, and pretty features.
- 3. It is <u>absolutely</u> essential to include vanilla in the recipe alongside other ingredients.
- 4. Debbie did a lot of research on the case at law school and she <u>previously</u> found that the responsible party was found not guilty
- 5. The vote for the new board member was not <u>completely</u> unanimous when Dr. Roberts refused to go along with the others.

Write a new, more concise sentence excluding the underlined expletive or other phrase that can be similified.

- 6. The plan has weaknesses.
- 7. That decision lacks merit.
- 8. The teenagers, got into trouble and were arrested.
- 9. The mistress had to be careful to avoid his wife.
- 10. Some soldiers refused to obey orders and abandoned their comrades in the firefight.