

Figure 10.3 A Plot Summary Filled with Sentence Variation

Your job today is to write a clear plot summary of “The Necklace” by Guy de Maupassant, the story we’ve just finished reading. In several paragraphs introduce the main characters, the problems, and the outcome.

In your summary, try to use these variations:

- ◆ Two compound sentences
- ◆ Two adverb clauses before the independent clause
- ◆ Two adverb clauses after the independent clause
- ◆ Three adjective clauses

Your plot summary should therefore contain at least nine sentences, but you can include more sentences. Identify your sentence variations by underlining compound sentences, putting a wavy line under the adjective clauses, and circling the adverb clauses.

Here’s a review of the signal words for each sentence variation:

Compound sentences: *and, but, or, yet, so, for*

Adverb clauses: *when, if, as, unless, although, since, while, after, because, before*

Adjective clauses: *who, whom, whose, which, that*

Here are examples of each variation:

Compound sentence: You can start this story in school, and you can finish it at home.

Adverb clause 1: When you are finished, I want to read your story.

Adverb clause 2: We will share them with the class if we have time.

Adjective clause: The finished story, which will have a lot of sentence variation, will be displayed in our classroom this week.

These plot summaries will provide writing samples for the rest of the week.