

San José State University Writing Center

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Concrete language gives readers a clear understanding of what you are writing about, whether it is a place, event, person, or other topic, by providing **precise**

The first sentence leaves readers with an incomplete picture: what team, which game? The details provided in the revised sentence answer these questions.

passing around heredity as though at a great party. They (viruses) may be a mechanism for keeping new, mutant forms of DNA, in the widest circulation among us.

By comparing viruses to bees, the unknown to the known, Thomas helps his readers imagine an invisible element in their day-to-day world.

Incorporating Comparisons Using Poetic Devices

Vague: That is a brightly colored dress.

Concrete: The fabric of that dress looks like a circus tent.

Vague: Mr. Smith is an excellent teacher.

Concrete:

Vague: The car engine start.

Concrete: The engine whined and complained, but it refused to turn over.

In each of these examples, adding similes or using verbs that personify has made concrete an abstract or general impression.

Rewrite each sentence of the following Yelp review to include concrete, descriptive language and specific details that al