

The Periodic Sentence & the Loose Sentence

Remember that for an adroit writer, everything is a choice.

A periodic sentence: a long sentence that has the main point at the end.

Ex. Considering the free health care, the cheap tuition fees, the low crime rate, the comprehensive and the wonderful winters, I am willing to pay slightly higher taxes for the privilege of living in Canada.

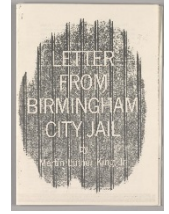
A reader must make his way through the sentence to understand the point the reader is trying to make. The reader must read all the information without knowing what the conclusion will be.

The periodic sentence is a powerful rhetorical technique that is not only dramatic but persuasive, even if a reader does not agree with your point they will have read your evidence with open minds.

A loose sentence: a long sentence that has the main point at the end.

Ex. I am willing to pay slightly higher taxes for the privilege of living in Canada considering the free health care, the cheap tuition fees, the low crime rate, the comprehensive and the wonderful winters.

A loose sentence with hostile readers will probably close their minds before considering any of your evidence.



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