

Add

Staple a paper on to add to a spot or use a sticky note or write on small sheets of paper.

One way --- staple paper over what you want to change.

I heard a noise outside my window. I looked
He was walking up the sidewalk to my house! He was dressed in a dark coat. He had a hat on and I couldn't see his face. new
to my room to look out the window with me. At first, we were both

Second Way --- make a carat mark where you want to add something (^). Add on a 1/2 sheet of paper or on another page in your writing notebook.

I heard a noise outside my window. I looked outside. It was a stranger. ^ I started to yell.
I ran to tell my mom. She came back to my room to look out the window with me. At first, we were both scared.

^ Add 1: He was walking up the sidewalk to my house! He was dressed in a dark coat. He had a hat on and I couldn't see his face. new
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Third Way --- Let's say you wrote this story and you found some places you could add some more important details. You can cut the paper apart. You can write the extra parts on other pieces of paper and cut them, too. Then glue them together the way you want it, like this...

I heard a noise outside my window. I got out of my bed and looked out side the window. I peeked through the curtains so no one could see me. I saw a stranger.
I ran to tell my mom. She came back to my room to look out the window with me.
My mom started to laugh. She said, "I think that's your uncle out there. What is he doing here?"

I heard a noise outside my window.
It sounded like a crunching noise, almost like squirrels eating acorns. new
I got out of my bed and looked out side the window. I peeked through the curtains so no one could see me. I saw a stranger.
He was walking up the sidewalk to my house! He was dressed in a dark coat. He had a hat on and I couldn't see his face. I started to yell. new
I ran to tell my mom. She came back to my room to look out the window with me.
My mom started to laugh. She said, "I think that's your uncle out there. What is he doing here?"

Subtract

What details don't really matter in this piece? Cross out. Cut out. Take out a letter, a word, a sentence, or even a paragraph. Choose one part and write it into a fuller story, cutting out the rest for later.

I heard a noise outside my window. I got out of my bed and looked out ~~side the window~~. I looked through the curtains so no one could see me. I saw a stranger moving from tree to tree. I started to yell.

~~I thought of all those movies I had seen. I got upset with myself that I had stayed up and watched them. Now I was more scared than I should have been.~~

I ran to tell me mom. She

Combine

Have I used some short sentences and some complex sentences?
Draw arrows. Combine two ideas together. Combine two sentences together.

Example:

It was snowing. The snow was coming down hard. Probably 2 inches of snow fell in one hour.

Combine:

It was snowing so hard that 2 inches fell in one hour.

Use short sentences for emphasis:

She screamed!

Rearrange

What word, sentences, or paragraphs are out of order?
Have I shown the reader where the parts of my story are by indenting my paragraphs?
Would my story be better with more action words?
Have I clearly told the reader where and when everything is happening?
Are all my verbs in the same tense?

- Color code.
- Cut and paste.
- Change the beginning to the end or put the end at the beginning.
- Change one word for a better word or phrase.

I heard a noise outside my window. I started to jumped yell. I got out of my bed and looked out ~~side the~~ peeked window. I ~~looked~~ through the curtains so no one could see me. I saw a stranger moving from tree to tree.

