Notes on Writing Meaningful Sentences

A meaningful sentence is one that uses context clues and synonyms to convey the meaning of a vocabulary word in the sentence.

Example:

Purring loudly while rubbing its plush fur against my leg, the ginger-colored squelbolump gently prodded me with its razor sharp claws in a bid to gain my attention.

Notice that there are several synonyms and context clues that assist the reader in discerning the meaning of the word, squelbolump. Of course, you deciphered that the unknown word means cat or kitten. If a word other than a synonym or a word with a similar meaning can be substituted for the unknown word, and the sentence still makes sense, the sentence is not a meaningful sentence. The words that provided context clues are underlined below:

Purring loudly while rubbing its plush fur against my leg, the ginger-colored squelbolump gently prodded me with its razor sharp claws in a bid to gain my attention.

Notes on Writing Meaningful Sentences:

- When your assignment is to write meaningful sentences, use all vocabulary words in meaningful sentences.
- Only one word per sentence may be used (otherwise, it is difficult to make the sentence meaningful).
- Underline the vocabulary word.
- You must use correct grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.
- Vocabulary words must be spelled correctly.
- Vocabulary words must be used correctly

Example of a correct meaningful sentence:

Her words spilling out in a raucous incomprehensible babble, I panicked as I realized that I could understand nothing the teacher was saying.

Notice that while I used another vocabulary word (raucous) in the sentence, I did not count it or underline it; instead, it serves as a descriptive context clue for the underlined word, incomprehensible.

Examples of incorrect meaningful sentences:

I was incomprehensible the teacher was talking too quickly.

The word is used incorrectly and the sentence is not grammatically correct: two sentences are run together.

The teacher was incomprehensible.

There are no synonyms or descriptions that provide context clues, therefore the sentence is not meaningful.