

Name _____

LA / Hour _____

Date _____

Restating the Question

We restate questions for two main reasons:

- 1) An accurate statement lets the reader or listener know what we are writing or talking about.
- 2) An accurate statement helps us remain clear on what we are writing or talking about.

When we restate a question, we use almost every word from the question in our restatement. In the examples below, the words in common between each question and its restatement have been underlined.

EXAMPLE 1: **What month of the year is shortest?**

The month of the year that is shortest is February . (OR)

February is the month of the year that is shortest. (OR) February is the shortest month of the year.

EXAMPLE 2: **How many ways can you eat a Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup?**

I can eat a Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup twelve ways.

EXAMPLE 3: **In the story “Little Red Riding Hood,” who is the most intelligent character?**

In the story “Little Red Riding Hood,” the most intelligent character is the wolf. (OR)

The wolf is the most intelligent character in the story “Little Red Riding Hood.”

EXAMPLE 4: **Why are people concerned about global warming?**

People are concerned about global warming because of the consequences it will have on human existence.

EXAMPLE 5: **Who will stop the rain?**

No one will stop the rain. (OR) The rain will be stopped by no one.

When we restate a question, the words that are replaced are often *who, what, where, when, why, how,* and phrases that those words begin (such as *who else, what happens, how often, how much, and how many*). We also change words. *You* can become *I*, for example, as in Example 2. Verb forms may change, as in Example 5.

If you are having trouble restating a sentence, try doing it in two steps.

- 1) First, restate the question using ALL of the words. Let’s restate Example 2 using every word:

“You can eat a Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup how many ways.”

This does not make perfect sense, and so it should point to where changes need to be made.

- 2) Second, replace the parts that keep the sentence from saying what you want it to say:

“**I** can eat a Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup **twelve** ways.”

ASSIGNMENT: **Write a restatement for each of these questions. The answer does not have to be factual, as long as the format is correct.**

1) Which prime time television show has the most educational content? _____

2) Which season of the year is your favorite? _____

3) What causes rain? _____
