

Name:

Section: Date: Score:

Avoid Cliches like the Plague

DIRECTIONS: REPLACE THE CLICHES FROM THIS PARAGRAPH WITH LANGUAGE THAT IS MORE SIMPLE AND PRECISE.

When you write, avoid cliches at all costs. In fact, avoid them like the plague. Cliches are ugly as sin and creep into our writing because they are a piece of cake to use. If an expression or phrase comes to mind easily--hold your horses and think--is this a cliché? Is this an overused statement that I hear all the time? In our plug and play culture, we want writing to be easy--or at least efficient. Time is money, and we have things to do and places to be--who wants to fumble around with words and stare at a screen? When reality sets in--though--and the dust settles, one thing is crystal clear: cliches are the enemy of good writing.

