First, create expanded noun phrases.

Use **adjectives** and **modifying nouns** to add extra information about the nouns in your sentence.

The volcano spat ash and lava into the sky.

becomes

The colossal, smouldering volcano spat dense, grey ash and molten, glowing lava into the blackened sky.



Next, add a fronted adverbial.

Fronted adverbials are words or phrases at the beginning of a sentence which are used to describe the action that follows.

The colossal, smouldering volcano spat dense, grey ash and molten, glowing lava into the blackened sky.

becomes

Violently, the colossal, smouldering volcano spat dense, grey ash and molten, glowing lava into the blackened sky.



After that, add a relative clause.

A **relative clause** gives us extra information about the noun in the main clause. It is connected to the main clause by a **relative pronoun**.

Violently, the colossal, smouldering volcano spat dense, grey ash and molten, glowing lava into the blackened sky. becomes

Violently, the colossal, smouldering volcano, which had been dormant for over one hundred years, spat dense, grey ash and molten, glowing lava into the blackened sky.



Finally, see if you can add a subordinate clause.

Subordinate clauses do not make sense on their own but when they are used with a main clause, they create a complex (multi-clause) sentence.

Violently, the colossal, smouldering volcano, which had been dormant for over one hundred years, spat dense, grey ash and molten, glowing lava into the blackened sky.

becomes

Violently, the colossal, smouldering volcano, which had been dormant for over one hundred years, spat dense, grey ash and molten, glowing lava into the blackened sky until all light from the midday sun had been banished.



