

## MURPHY BI-WEEKLY WRITING TIP

### *Replace Informal with Formal Words*

Dear Murphy Students:

This week's tip will briefly provide a short list of common *informal words* that students use in their writing, and a list of *formal words* you can use instead.

There are, of course, *more*. But think of this as a start!

#### Why Formal?

**Informal words** are words we use around friends or family and even classmates. There is nothing wrong with using them in the right contexts.

However, for academic writing – we need to use *formal* words because academic writing is often more professional.

#### Common Informal Phrases & Formal Alternatives

Kids	Children
Bad	Negative
Good	Positive
Really big	Considerable
Right	Correct
Wrong	Incorrect
Smart	Intelligent
Cheap	Inexpensive

Go up	Increase
Go down	Decrease
Set up	Establish
Look at	Examine
Point out	Indicate
Go against	Oppose
Let	Permit
Need to	Required

#### Example

The strategy had a **really big** effect on the **kids** in the classroom. The results **pointed out** that their on-task behavior **went up** when **needed to**.

The strategy had a **considerable** effect on the **children** (or **students**) in the classroom. The results **indicated** that their on-task behavior **increased** when **required to**.

#### Sign Up for a One-On-One Tutoring Session

1. Visit <https://murphy.mywconline.net/>
2. [Register for an account](#)
3. Log in and select the "Writing Support (All Campuses)" calendar.
4. Choose any of the available white rectangles.
5. Fill out the form with your assignment info.

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If you have questions or want to put this into practice, feel free to contact me! ☺