

Pitchforking actions

Plain sentence:

*I stood in the middle
of the field.*

Pitchforked action:

*I stood in the middle of the
field, stamping my feet and
shivering in the cold, waiting
for something to happen.*

—Ben Brody

PRACTICE THE CONVERSATION:

A: Read the first sentence please.

B: *I stood in the middle of the field.*

A: Good. Now let's see how this writer pitchforked an action in the next sentence. Read it, please.

B: *I stood in the middle of the field, stamping my feet and shivering in the cold, waiting for something to happen.*

A: Hmm . . . how is that a pitchfork? Can you explain?

B: Well, the writer took the word *stood* and added three other actions.

A: How is that like a pitchfork?

B: It started out as one and branched out into three more actions. Just like the shape of a pitchfork.

A: Good!

