

## **Long, beautiful sentences**

### **Thomas Jefferson, on U.S. free public education system**

... And whereas it is generally true that the people will be happiest whose laws are best, and are best administered, and that laws will be wisely formed, and honestly administered, in proportion as those who form and administer them are wise and honest;

whence it becomes expedient for promoting the publick happiness that those persons, whom nature hath endowed with genius and virtue, should be rendered by liberal education worthy to receive, and able to guard the sacred deposit of the rights and liberties of their fellow citizens,

and that they should be called to that charge without regard to wealth, birth or other accidental condition or circumstance; but the indigence of the greater number disabling them from so educating, at their own expence, those of their children whom nature fitly formed and disposed to become useful instruments for the public,

it is better that such should be sought for and education at the common expences of all, than that the happiness of all should be confided to the weak or wicked.

--Virginia Bill for the More General Diffusion of Knowledge

*parallel construction, detailed piled upon detail*