Use miscellaneous textbooks

Say this:
“Show me:
… a sentence that begins with a capital letter.”
… a page number with three digits.”
… a word in the front of the index.” etc.

“Give me:
… a textbook that isn’t open.”
… a textbook that I haven’t opened.”
… a book that you use to learn about genetics.” etc.

“Turn to:
…the index of your math book.”
…the table of contents, and then the glossary.”
…any page with a fraction on it.” etc.

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Additional information regarding clause and phrase practice:

Complexity can also be increased by adding elements to the sentence before the clause or phrase. For example, “Please don’t forget again to pass me my brand new crumpled jacket that’s hanging up.”

Complexity can also be increased by shifting clauses or phrases within the sentence. For example, “Please pass me the jacket that’s hanging up before you leave for your mother’s house.”

Complexity can also be increased by manipulating the hierarchy within classes. For example, a student working on prepositions could use the following hierarchy:

The duck dropped its feather on the ground.
The duck dropped its feather under the bridge.
The duck dropped its feather between two banks.
The duck dropped its feather across another feather.
The duck dropped its feather through the broken window.

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Put it in the middle:

Write words that introduce clauses and phrases on the board or on a piece of paper. These can include relative pronouns (e.g. that, who, which, where), prepositions (etc. of, below, etc.), adverbs, or conjunctions. Instruct the student to create sentences in which the target word is in the middle of the sentence. As sentences are correctly created, erase the target words.
Sentence Combination

Sentences, clauses, and phrases, such as the ones in the left hand column, can be written or presented orally.

Combine: Answers:
The ball rolled down the hill. The ball rolled down the steep hill.
The hill was steep.

His hat was tall. His hat was tall and black.
His hat was black.

The girl had a hat. The girl with the hat ran.
The girl ran.

Joe put on the backpack. Joe put on the backpack that was not his.
The backpack was not his.

where bears hibernate A den is a place where bears hibernate.
A den is a place.

My friend got a letter. My friend got a letter from her aunt.
The letter was from her aunt.

of all his inventions The scientist made a list of all his inventions.
The scientist made a list.

I washed my hands. I washed my hands with water and a new bar of soap.
I used warm water.

I use warm water.

He found the pen. He found the pen that was used for the signature that was used
for the signature.

with the great red spot with the great red spot between Saturn and Mars
between Saturn and Mars?
What’s the name of the planet

The governor signed the bill. The governor signed it while he smiled for the news cameras.
He had carefully considered it. After carefully considering the bill, the governor signed it while he smiled for the cameras.
He smiled for the cameras.

The scientist discovered a new virus. The scientist discovered a new, deadly virus instead of bacteria.
He did not discover a new bacteria. The virus was deadly.

Create your own! Have the students create their own!