Sentence Clarity

Clear sentences are direct, uncluttered, and precise. Here are some tips on editing your prose for more clarity:

1. Go from old to new information
   - Confusing: The dragon baked a dark chocolate cherry cake in order to relax, having just taken her flying exam.
   - Better: After the dragon took her flying exam, she baked a dark chocolate cherry cake in order to relax.

2. Use active voice
   - Confusing: The chocolate batter was licked off the spoon by the dragon.
   - Better: The dragon licked the chocolate batter off the spoon.

3. Avoid interrupting the main point of the sentence
   - Confusing: The dragon, because of her love for frosting, made an extra bowl to eat while watching “Mystical Island’s Next Top Model.”
   - Better: Because she loved frosting, the dragon made an extra bowl to eat while watching “Mystical Island’s Next Top Model.”

4. Avoid multiple negatives
   - Confusing: The dragon did not realize she had forgotten the cherries until she was not cooking anymore, so she did not fix the mistake.
   - Better: The dragon did not put the cherries in her cake because she had already finished baking when she realized the mistake.

5. Avoid unclear pronoun references
   - Confusing: The dragon decided to put extra cherries on top of her cake, since she had forgotten earlier and this made it even more delicious.
   - Better: Since she had forgotten to put cherries in earlier, the dragon decided to put extra cherries on top of her cake, which made the cake even more delicious.

6. Avoid dangling modifiers
   - Confusing: In sharing with her friends on Mystical Island, her cake plate got lost somehow.
   - Better: In sharing with her friends, the dragon lost her cake plate somehow.