

Grade 6 Literacy
Week of October 26 – October 30

Lessons 2: Revising



So your rough draft is done. Now what?



<https://youtu.be/RBKqgOvmJ8w>

Part 1

On your assignment template, you will find a place to write your first draft. Don't worry about errors. You will have a chance to revise and edit this draft. **Go write your draft.**

Write this under "**Step Three: Revising**" in your template. Then, using a different colour text (red is recommended) make the changes suggested below. By using a different colour, your revisions are more clear.

Check the overall content:

- Is it in the best order?
- Did I say everything you wanted to say?
- Is it all relevant?
- Should I add, subtract, move, or change anything?

Look at word choice.

- Check: Do I have figurative language? Your teacher would like to see one or more simile, one metaphor, and one or more alliterations.
 - If you said no to any of the above, take the time to enhance your word choices.
- Check: Have I used sensory language? Your teacher would like to see three senses addressed (sight, sound, touch/feel, taste, smell)
 - If you do not have three senses included, take the time to enhance your word choices.

include stronger action verbs. Can you substitute, add, or remove any words? (looms, winding, pedaled, sought, absorbed, lapping, hummed)

- Check: Have I used vivid verbs and creatively applied adverbs?
 - Where can I substitute, add, or improve any verbs and adverbs? (menacingly, casually, reluctantly, seemingly)
- Check: Have I enhanced some nouns with tantalizing adjectives? (majestic, grass-filled, endless, gentle, peaceful, threatening)
 - Where can I substitute, add, or improve any adjectives?

Part 2

Mini-Lesson: Look at sentence variety

Sentence variety is important. How can you vary sentences?

- You can vary sentences by adding the occasional question or exclamation.
- You can vary sentence length. Include some short, some medium, and some longer (but not "too long" or "run-on") sentences.
- You can vary the way you start sentences. (A common error is to start more than one sentence in a paragraph with "I", "Then", or "Next". Please do not overuse these words!)

Here are some options for varying the way you start:

1. **Subject** (who or what is doing something; examples - person's name, he, she, it or they)
2. **Preposition** (a word that shows position, time or location and is part of a phrase; examples -on, at, in, after, down, near...)
3. **Adverb** (usually tells how, or when something happened and ends in -ly..... examples: unfortunately, eventually, suddenly)
4. **-ing word** Example: Screaming, the child fled from the malicious mad man.
5. **Clausal** (where,when, while, as, since, if, although)

Example: (Notice the underlined words)

Seconds before (#2 - starting with a preposition) the old, faithful alarm blared a distorted top-forty through its tiny top speaker, the thick, burnt scent of roasted coffee tickled the tip of my nose. Wiping (#4 - starting with an "ing" word) away the grit of last night's sleep, the starch white sunlight blinded me momentarily as I slung my arm like an elephant trunk along the top of the alarm, searching for the snooze button. While (#5 - starting with a clausal word) stretching hands and feet to the four posts of my bed, my eyes opened after several watery blinks. I (#1 - starting with the subject) crawled out of the comforter, edging awkwardly like a butterfly from a cocoon, swinging my legs over the side of the bed. The dusty pebbles on the chilled, wood floor sent ripples spiraling from my ankles to the nape of my neck when my feet hit the floor. Grabbing (#4 - starting with an "ing" word) the apricot, terri-cloth robe, recently bathed in fabric softener and October wind, I knotted it tightly at my waist like a prestigious coat of armor. I was ready to battle!!(short sentence, exclamation)

Revising

Complete AFTER the Pre-Writing and First Draft steps, and you have reviewed any feedback you may have received. Use a different colour pen or pencil (or a different colour text if you are working on a computer) to make your revisions on your draft. Check off each revision step as you complete it.

Check the overall content:

- Is it in the best order?
- Did I say everything you wanted to say?
- Is it all relevant?
- Should I add, subtract, move, or change anything?

Look at word choice.

- Check: Do I have figurative language? Your teacher would like to see one or more simile, one metaphor, and one or more alliterations.
 - If you said no to any of the above, take the time to enhance your word choices.
- Check: Have I used sensory language? Your teacher would like to see three senses addressed (sight, sound, touch/feel, taste, smell)
 - If you do not have three senses included, take the time to enhance your word choices.
 - include stronger action verbs. Can you substitute, add, or remove any words? (looms, winding, pedaled, sought, absorbed, lapping, hummed)
- Check: Have I used vivid verbs and creatively applied adverbs?
 - Where can I substitute, add, or improve any verbs and adverbs? (menacingly, casually, reluctantly, seemingly)
- Check: Have I enhanced some nouns with tantalizing adjectives? (majestic, grass-filled, endless, gentle, peaceful, threatening)
 - Where can I substitute, add, or improve any adjectives?

Look at sentence variety.

- Check: Do I add the occasional exclamation or question?
 - If not, where can I use one of these?
- Check: Do I vary my sentence length?
 - If not, where can I combine/lengthen or divide/shorten a sentence.
- Check: Do I vary the way I start sentences? (A common error is to start more than one sentence in a paragraph with "I", "Then", or "Next". Please do not overuse these words!)
 - If not, where can I change the way I start sentences. (Remember, you can vary the subject, use a preposition, and adverb, an -ing word, or a clausal)