

Final Paper

Final Paper

- Introduction to the Problem
- Literature Review
- Methods
- Conclusion
- Works cited
- Graded copy of Methods paper (worth 2 pts).

Revision

- Is a large part of the final paper.
- We expect the final papers to be proofread/copyedited and revised for style, clarity and cohesion.
- If you do not own a Writer's Reference now is a good time to get one.
- Many of you need to go to the Writing Center for help.
- Paper needs to be printed the day before it is due.

Revision

- Proofreading
 - **Spelling**
 - Do NOT rely on your computer's spellcheck—it will not get everything!
 - Examine each word in the paper individually by reading carefully. Moving a pencil under each line of text helps you to see each word.

Revision

- **Fragment Sentences**
- Make sure each sentence has a subject. In the following sentence, the subject is "students": The students looked at the OWL website.

Revision

- **Run-on Sentences**
- **Subject/Verb Agreement**
- **Pronoun Reference/Agreement**
- **Apostrophes**
- **Sentence clarity**

Revision

- **Mixed construction**
- Read through your sentences carefully to make sure that they do not start with one sentence structure and shift to another. A sentence that does this is called a mixed construction.
- Example: Since I have a lot of work to do is why I can't go out tonight.
- Edited version: Since I have a lot of work to do, I can't go out tonight.

Revision

- **Parallelism**
- Look through your paper for series of items and make sure these items are in parallel form.
Example: Being a good friend involves good listening skills, to be considerate, and that you know how to have fun.
- Edited version: Being a good friend involves knowing how to listen, be considerate, and have fun.

Revision for Cohesion

- **Questions to Ask Yourself as You Revise**

Do your sentences "hang together?"

- Readers must feel that they move easily from one sentence to the next, that each sentence "coheres" with the one before and after it.
- Readers must feel that sentences in a paragraph are not just individually clear, but are unified with each other.

Revision for Cohesion

Will your reader be able to identify quickly the "topic" of each paragraph?

- Note: it is easier to see coherence and clarity in other people's writing. Why? Because by the time we reach a final draft, everything we write seems old to us. Improving on this takes practice.

Revision for Cohesion

Tighten and clean up your language.

- Do all of the ideas in the paper make sense? Are there unclear or confusing ideas or sentences? Read your paper out loud and listen for awkward pauses and unclear ideas. Cut out extra words, vagueness, and misused words.

Revision for Cohesion

Transitions

- Good transitions can connect paragraphs and turn disconnected writing into a unified whole. Instead of treating paragraphs as separate ideas, transitions can help readers understand how paragraphs work together, reference one another, and build to a larger point. The key to producing good transitions is highlighting connections between corresponding paragraphs. By referencing in one paragraph the relevant material from previous ones, writers can develop important points for their readers.

Revision for Cohesion

Active Voice

Using active voice for the majority of your sentences makes your meaning clear for readers, and keeps the sentences from becoming too complicated or wordy. Even in scientific writing, too much use of passive voice can cloud the meaning of your sentences.

- Passive: The car was driven into the tree.
- Notice that this sentence doesn't say who was driving?
- Articles can not do research!