

REVISITING YOUR PAPER

Great, you've submitted a paper, which gives us a piece of writing to revisit. By revisit, I mean to look again at the ideas presented, not so much looking for grammar and spelling issues (that can come later). Instead you are going to look at the ideas you communicated in your paper, how you organized them, the ordering of paragraphs, the order of sentences within paragraphs, as well as your introduction and conclusion.

Now for the other 50 points, you will need to do the following:

1. Read over your paper. Could present your ideas more clearly? Could your paper be more organized? Could you provide more precise details to emphasize your ideas? Could you better address one or more of the questions? What are the main ideas that you want to communicate to your audience through your writing? List them.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

2. Revise one section of your paper that deals with one of your main ideas (listed above). Use the techniques talked about in class to revise a section, or you may revise the entire paper, and make up to half of the points you missed the first round.

Caveat, this is a revision, a rethinking of the ideas you are communicating, so that the paper is more clear, succinct, and organized, but spelling and grammar still count.

Additional resources about revision are available:

<http://www.metrostate.edu/writingcenter/clues/index.html>

The revision page has some great points,

<http://www.metrostate.edu/writingcenter/clues/revision.html>

This is another great place to get information about writing, and it's worth your time! <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

3. Answer the following questions about the sociology of gender and revisiting your paper.

- A. How did you know what the gendered expectations for men/women are, despite not usually being that gender? In other words, how do you know what you think you know? Be specific.
- B. As a young sociologist, what explanation can you offer as to why this information about gender is so readily accessible?
- C. Take one example of an expectation you talked about in your paper and explain in detail what it is, how it works, and what happens when men/women don't conform to it. Be critical, how does non-conformity challenge gender norms / roles / ideas?

From the Metropolitan State University Revision Checklist page:
January 3, 2003. September 20, 2005 <<http://www.metrostate.edu/writingcenter/clues/revision.html>>

Development

1. Is the purpose of your writing clearly stated in the beginning? Do you immediately let your audience know what you are trying to do and why?
2. Is your draft written with its audience in mind? Do you assume too much knowledge from your audience? Have you given the audience enough background information so they can pick up on the topic where your paper does? Do you avoid giving your audience obvious information or information it already knows?
3. Have you included enough information to make your presentation believable and complete, or do you need more examples, research data, explanations, and so on?
4. Does your draft cover all requirements of the assignment?

Organization and Paragraphs

1. Have you arranged your ideas in the most logical sequence or would a different sequence be more effective? What is your strategy?
2. Does each paragraph have its own reason for being? In other words, does each paragraph develop a single idea? Is that single idea explicitly stated near the beginning (or at the end) of the paragraph?
 - a. Are your paragraphs too long? Several long paragraphs might indicate that you are dealing with too many ideas at once.
 - b. Are your paragraphs too short? Several one and two-sentence paragraphs usually indicate that you have divided ideas which could be united in a single paragraph, or that you have failed to sufficiently develop an idea.
3. Do you show as well as tell your audience what you mean in each paragraph by including examples, definitions, comparisons, quotations, statistics, descriptions, case studies, analogies, references to other writing on the same subject, anecdotes, or restatement of key ideas?
4. Are paragraphs woven together by one of the following techniques?
 - a. Repetition of key words, concepts, or even sentences? (You confuse your audience if you use several different synonyms for the same concept.)
 - b. Use of connecting words and phrases such as furthermore, in addition, however, on the other hand, in particular, in conclusion?
 - c. Numbering the steps of your argument (first, second, third)?
5. Does your draft have an inviting introduction, an informative and insightful body, and a summarizing conclusion?