Revising a Personal Narrative About Choice

SUGGESTED LEARNING STRATEGIES: Self-Editing, Sharing and Responding, Peer Editing

Assignment

Your assignment is to revise the personal narrative you created during the timed writing in Activity 1.11. Use the revision techniques you have learned in this unit. You will also write a reflection on the changes you make to improve your first draft and explain the effect of the changes on the final piece.

Steps

Planning

1. Locate your Timed Writing from Activity 1.11, “Choosing a Topic for a Timed Writing.” This is your first draft for this Embedded Assessment.

2. Read your first draft and take notes identifying points of revision (that is, narrative structure, clarity of ideas, inclusion of narrative elements, etc.). Be prepared to share these ideas in your writing groups and get feedback on other areas that would benefit from revision.

3. Revisit Activities 1.14, 1.15, and 1.16 for guidance about revising beginnings, middles, and endings. Consider how to apply these revision strategies to your timed-writing draft. Within your writing groups, use the following directions to focus your discussion:
   a. Look closely at the organization of your narrative. Does it contain
      ► a clear beginning with an effective lead
      ► a detailed, sequenced middle
      ► a reflective ending?
   b. Look closely at the narrative elements. Does your narrative contain
      ► an event revealing a choice
      ► a response that details your feelings and thoughts
      ► and reflection on the consequences of that choice?
   c. Look closely at the stylistic elements of your draft. Does your narrative contain
      ► sentences of varying lengths and types
      ► participles and correct use of verb tenses (including perfect and progressive tenses) that are consistent
      ► correct and effective use of punctuation, such as commas in a series or after introductory words?
4. On separate paper, create a plan for revision by responding thoughtfully to the following:

- What do you like best about your writing at this point? Why?
- What do you think could be improved? Why?
- After reading my draft, I realize that in the next draft I should revise __________ because __________.
- What do you plan to change, and how will those changes improve the draft?

Revising

5. Using your plan for revision and the feedback from your writing group, revise your draft. Consult the Scoring Guide to ensure that you address specific criteria.

Editing for Publication

6. Refer to the Word Wall for correct spelling and use of vocabulary words from this unit.

7. Reread your draft silently, and correct errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Share your edited draft with your writing group to identify additional errors in grammar and usage. Ask them to help you fix the errors in preparation for publication.

8. Next, find a word, phrase, or line in the narrative that captures the major idea. Consider how you could modify it into a title that is original and creative.

9. Rewrite or type your narrative to produce a clean draft. Proofread your text again and make sure it is ready for publication.

Reflection

10. Once you have completed your revision, look back at your first draft and your revision plan. Then write a detailed reflection that explains the following:

- the most significant changes you made
- why you made them
- the intended effect of those changes on your reader.

11. Attach both your first draft and your revised draft to this reflection.

TECHNOLOGY TIP  If you have access to a computer, you may want to create your narrative using word processing software. You can use the “track changes” feature and save each version of your draft with a different filename so you have all the revisions you make to your text during your revision process. Remember to accept the corrections for the final draft so you deliver a clean paper without revision comments.
## Revising a Personal Narrative About Choice

### SCORING GUIDE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scoring Criteria</th>
<th>Exemplary</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
<th>Emerging</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Idea</strong></td>
<td>The narrative responds to the prompt skillfully by</td>
<td>The narrative responds to the prompt by</td>
<td>The text does not show an adequate response to the prompt.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• effectively describing the choice</td>
<td>• describing the choice</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• clearly explaining the consequences of the decision made</td>
<td>• explaining the consequences of the decision made</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• thoroughly reflecting on the lesson learned</td>
<td>• reflecting on the lesson learned.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>The author effectively revises the organizational structure of the narrative to include:</td>
<td>The author revises the organizational structure of the narrative to include:</td>
<td>The author’s text reflects very little revision to first draft’s organizational structure. If present, the draft may or may not include the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• an engaging beginning that hooks the reader and effectively reveals all aspects of the incident</td>
<td>• a beginning that introduces the incident</td>
<td>• a beginning with an unfocused hook</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• a middle that vividly describes the series of events leading to the incident as well as the narrator’s feelings, thoughts, and actions</td>
<td>• a middle that adequately describes of the narrator’s feelings, thoughts, and actions</td>
<td>• a middle that is not descriptive or merely tells the series of events leading to the incident</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• a reflective ending that examines the consequences of the choice.</td>
<td>• an ending that examines the consequences of the choice.</td>
<td>• an ending with minimal reflection and closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Use of Language</strong></td>
<td>The narrative effectively uses sensory images and details to vividly “show” the incident.</td>
<td>The narrative uses sensory images and details to make the incident clear.</td>
<td>The narrative does not use sensory images and details to make the incident clear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conventions</strong></td>
<td>Writing contains few or no errors in spelling, punctuation, or capitalization.</td>
<td>Spelling, punctuation, and capitalization mistakes do not detract from the narrative.</td>
<td>Spelling, punctuation, or capitalization mistakes detract from meaning and/or readability.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scoring Criteria</td>
<td>Exemplary</td>
<td>Proficient</td>
<td>Emerging</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Revision Plan and Reflection</strong></td>
<td>The author outlines and implements a thorough revision plan.</td>
<td>The author outlines and implements an appropriate revision plan.</td>
<td>The author does not outline or implement a plan for revision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The author revises the text by making significant revisions that improve the meaning, clarity, and the style of the narrative.</td>
<td>The author revises the text by making revisions that bring clarity to the narrative for the reader.</td>
<td>The reflection is minimal and/or unclear.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The reflection includes several thoughtful reasons and explanations for the changes made.</td>
<td>The reflection includes reasons for the changes made.</td>
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<td><strong>Additional Criteria</strong></td>
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Comments:

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