

Writing Steps

"Revising" by Joseph Harris

revising

a consistent set of questions you can ask of any draft of an essay

incoming college freshmen are taught how to edit, not to revise!

examples:

What is your project and what do you want to accomplish in it?

What works? build on your strengths

What else can be said? Acknowledge other views and possibilities?

Whats next? What are the implications of what you have to say?

Drafting

generating text

AKA invention

Uses Steven King's novel of "Misery" as an example

make note of the ideas that "come to you"

value of patience, and knowing when you need to take a step back and take a break from writing

emphasizes the importance of working through a word block

Learning Zone!!!!

begins with two quotes from The Onion and Bruce Springstein song

finished text do not show all of the labor and issues involved in writing them

Coming to terms with a draft

write an abstract

think about your project as a whole

think about HOW you develop your line of thinking

create an overview of the paper

outline each paragraph by highlighting the main topics

should result in a short "speed" version of your essay

write in new prose, focus more on the moves you are making as a writer

Revising

working with the text you have already created

rethink and reshape what you want to say

Uses an example by Abhijit Mehta, the introduction paragraph about the vocabulary in mathematics and how it differs from other fields

did some proofreading, simple corrections

edited for clarity

created a plan of change and acted on it

instead build up what is "good"

do not dwell on what is "bad" about the essay

"Out of the Furnace" example

develops another idea out of the resource

Countering

be open to allowing new thoughts to emerge

Editing

working on your text as an artifact

preparing the final version of your doc

just looking at grammar, spelling punctuation etc

Proofreading

NOT the same as editing because editing looks at the work as a whole

writer-based to reader-based prose - Linda Flower

when concluding an essay attempt to answer So what? and What's next?

tend to be overlapping and do not necessarily have to remain in this order