CLRC Writing Skills Workshop: Self-Editing Skills

Presenters:
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Student Learning Outcomes

After attending this workshop, students should be able to do the following:

- Identify strategies for revision.
- Match revision strategies to particular stages of the writing process.
- Apply revision strategies to their own writing.
Brainstorm Current Questions

- What brought you here today?
- On what writing assignments are you currently working? For which classes?
- What do you find most challenging when trying to edit your own paper?
- What are the benefits of developing self-editing skills?
Part I: Self-Editing Strategies

Considerations:
- Play both roles of writer and reader
- Gather resources and reference material
- Actively read and make notes on a paper copy of your essay
- Seek instructional feedback from tutors and instructor
Self-Editing Strategies

- **Global level**
  - Re-read the assignment sheet: is your draft complete?
  - Underline the thesis: does it answer the assignment?
  - Re-read your conclusion: does it match the thesis and paragraphs?

- **Paragraph level**
  - Underline each topic sentence: does it state the main idea?
  - Identify detail and corresponding analysis: is there a balance between facts and opinion, if required?
  - Underline transitions: is the reader being lead forward?

- **Sentence level**
  - Slowly read aloud: listen for punctuation pauses and careless errors.
  - Read sentences in reverse order, from last to first: check each sentence as its own clear, grammatically correct statement.
  - Keep a record of errors you regularly make, then work with a tutor to learn correct grammar rules.
Part II: Activity

- Use your own essay or a sample provided.
- Choose a strategy and apply it:
  - First or incomplete draft: overall structure; individual paragraph structure; work on a model paragraph
  - Second or final draft: overall and paragraph structure; sentence structure for clarity, accuracy, punctuation; citation accuracy; overall formatting
  - Responding to instructor comments: for each comment, identify the sentences that require change; check new sentences against what the comment asks
Next Steps: Self-Editing Strategies

- Use resources while you edit, including the assignment sheet and course material.
- Review the Self-editing handouts for suggestions.
- Meet with a tutor or your instructor to explore which possibilities are appropriate for the stage of writing in which you are engaged.
- Use the DLA to identify your current writing concerns when you visit the Writing Center.
Conclusion

- Why is this important to your academic success and critical thinking?
- What did you learn? What do you still wonder?
Upcoming CLRC Workshops

- All here in the CLRC, Thursdays, 1 – 1:50 PM
- Learning Skills
  - Learning Styles – Oct. 30
  - Math Confidence – Nov. 13
  - Stress Management – Dec. 4
- Writing Skills
  - Self-Editing Strategies – Oct. 23
  - MLA and APA Citation – Nov. 20
Thank you

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