

EXPOSITORY ESSAY ROUGH DRAFT REVISION

Nov. 13(A) & Nov. 14(B)

Materials you will need:

- Your scored Rough Draft
- STAAR Expository Writing Rubric
- STAAR Example Lined Page

What you are doing:

Today you will be revising your Expository Essay rough draft that was completed last week. Your goal is to revise your essay to bring up your score by 1 point.

If you scored a 4, you will be revising your essay to make sure it's:

- Free of grammatical errors
- Fits within the 26 line STAAR limit
- Is the very best essay you can write!

Instructions:

Step 1: Locate your score on the Writing Rubric.

Step 2: COMPARE YOUR ESSAY TO THE RUBRIC:

Locate areas in your rough draft that match the information in the rubric. Highlight, underline, or circle what you find. Make sure to label what you identify so you can refer to it when you're revising.

EXAMPLE: Repetition

I think heroes are important because they help people. It's important to have heroes in modern society because they do good things. If there were no heroes, then people would not be helped, and a lot of bad things would happen. That's why I think heroes are important.

Repetition!

***The point of doing this is so that you can see WHY you scored a 1, 2, 3, or 4, and what you can do to improve that score. ***

Step 3: When you are finished with step 2, go back and review the areas you identified. Begin to revise those areas, and write your 2nd draft on the STAAR Example Lined Page.

EXPOSITORY ESSAY ROUGH DRAFT REVISION

Nov. 13(A) & Nov. 14(B)

When revising your Expository Essay, keep the following things in mind as well as the criteria on the rubric. You can put a “check-mark” next to each one as you work:

- Am I simply rewording the prompt?** Avoid rewording the prompt because the reader already knows what the prompt is.
- Is my thesis strong, obvious, and clear?** Remember, strong thesis statements address the prompt, and connect with the rest of your essay.
- Do I begin with my thesis?** You want to “get out of the gate” with your thesis. Remember, you don’t have a lot of room for a lengthy introduction.
- Are my personal examples unfocused?** When using personal examples, make sure that you are coming back to the point of your essay. Try choosing 3-4 key sentences that tell the story and directly relate to the point.
- Am I explaining anything in my essay?** Remember, expository means to *explain*. Try not to get lost in a personal narrative that goes off topic.
- Am I using transitions between sentences and paragraphs?** It’s important to use transitions because they help to establish logical connections between sentences, paragraphs, and sections of your papers.

But I LOVE this paragraph. How can I delete it? It's some of my best writing ever! Ok, maybe it doesn't contribute to the overall story but I spent so long writing it! If single paragraphs could win the Pulitzer, this paragraph would win, for sure. Revision is overrated, anyway, since I spent so much time on this paragraph. Why do I have to get rid of something that I can't make go away? This paragraph is THE BEST and I



Revision Angst

INKYGIRL.COM: Daily Diversions For Writers
Copyright©2009 Debbie Ridpath Ohi