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We have tried several different revision strategies over the course of this year. Use this document and the feedback from the last draft to choose a strategy that you need to focus on next. I want you to do one strategy by yourself and then pick a second strategy to do with a peer. You could pick the same strategy and then compare results with a peer for some of them. You, of course, can do more than two.

**Still struggling with your intro?**

+ **Intro and conclusion swap:** Try reading your conclusion first and then your intro. What do you notice? Does this process give you any insight into a way to improve your intro? If so, what?
+ **Intro rewrites:** Now that you know your topic much better than you did when you wrote this intro try out different styles to find one that does the job in the best way. It grabs your audience, it is well written, it establishes exigence, its thesis is narrow instead of broad. [link to slide and document with activity](#): starting with an anecdote, starting with research, a study, facts, starting with a philosophical overview of the controversy etc… or a combo.
+ **Struggling with your thesis?** Reread your essay and see if there are any statements that sound better than what you currently have as a thesis. Are you using the language that your community of experts uses? A lot of times we write our thesis eventually as our brains connect thoughts and the thesis is there you just need to clarify it earlier.
+ **Struggling with narrowing your stance?** Free write: write some personal belief statements about your topic. What do you believe? What do you want done? What aspect of this conversation do you want to address? What new aspects do you want your audience to consider?

**Struggling with Organization?**

+ **Print version: Cut up activity:** Print your essay, one-sided, and cut the paragraphs apart. Consider cutting certain paragraphs into several parts. Then move them around and see if there’s a better way to organize your ideas! Want to do this with a partner? They could print your essay and have a family member rearrange it and then meet on a Google Meets to work through what they ended up with. Don’t have a printer? Make a copy of your essay, cut and paste your paragraphs in a different order, send it to a peer and have them send it back. Did they put it together right? If not, create a Google Meets and discuss why.

+ **Online version: cut up activity:** make a copy of your essay and label it “Cut Up Draft: Name”. Erase your title and header and cut and paste your essay in a new random order. Share with your peer revision mate. REvision mate: read and try to cut and paste the essay in its original format. When you are both done get onto the document and talk through why you ordered it that way. You could also split-screen with the original and discuss and discrepancies.
+Color coding variations: Assign colors to a number of the following: You could do these alone or with a peer. If you do them with a peer you would want to make a copy and share your document then create a Google Meets or Zoom to discuss.

- If you do any of these with a peer online: With a peer after you have color-coded make them look within your essay to try to find where the components are represented. When you are done with each other’s essays take time to discuss your findings. What did you notice? What do you need to adjust? Why?

  - Thesis focus: Break your thesis into its component parts (all the parts of your thesis that you’d need to prove-- for instance, if your thesis is “this highly possible solution [using video games to teach] is greatly beneficial in comparison to the teaching methods brought today because it’s using what this generation enjoys to their learning experiences,” you’d color code the three parts as marked. Then go through your paper and highlight, in the same colors, the parts that support each part of that thesis.
  - Intro content focus: apply the same rules as above but to your entire intro giving each subject mentioned a color, then read your essay to see if you explored each subject.
  - Also, are there subjects covered that you did not introduce? Remember that some of us have a couple of paragraphs that are considered your intro instead of one.
  - Content Balancing: You could, alternatively, color-code your essay for the following: thesis, topic sentences, transition sentences, evidence, and reasoning/analysis. Then look at the ratio and placement of each-- is it logical? Do you have enough transitions? Does each paragraph have a clear topic sentence or main point?
  - Main points: read through and list main points. Give each main point a color and then read essay highlighting for those colors. You will be able to look at organization/ topic mixing/ repetitive points etc…
  - Quote integration variety: highlight all areas where textual evidence has been embedded. Then in the margins discuss how you incorporated it? Do you signal in multiple ways or do you always do it the same way? For example, are all your sources name-dropped/ sourced dropped? If so, which ones work the best and which could be done a different way?

+Reverse outlining: see link to instructions: This should help you work on the progression of your argument. Do you have your ideas presented in a logical format? Can you make a rationale that works for your audience with those choices? Can they see that without working to figure it out? Do this with a peer? Have them reverse outline your essay and then create a Google Meets or Zoom to share your findings.
Struggling with sentence fluency or conventions?

+ **Upload your paper to Turnitin.com**, and click “view.” Then click the purple ETS box, on the right side, and scroll through. Hover your mouse over the comments to see what you need to fix.
+ **Read your paper aloud** to yourself (you can do this in the hall or in your bedroom, so you don’t have to be embarrassed!), or better yet, have someone else read it aloud to you. You’ll start to hear where there are convention or sentence fluency issues that you didn’t realize were there.
  + **In a Zoom/Google Meets:** share your screen and have your peer read your essay aloud instead. Often they will stumble over something you might not have. Everytime they stumble, stop, add a comment using the comment to give you feedback about what you need to revise
+ **Go to NoRedInk** and to “home.” Click “Explore our learning library” and do some practice on a topic that you’re getting comments on-- if you keep seeing the comment “run on” or “integrate your quote” in your paper, look at the practice and lesson for that, then try to apply it to your paper.

Struggling with the counter-arguments?

+ **See counterargument examples.** Then reread your counterargument. What’s your organizational strategy? Is it the best one? Read sample theses and counterarguments.