



Editing Essay for Content and Style

1. Reread your latest draft and check the phrases that describe your paper as it is right now.
2. Make a plan to focus your revision by completing the sentences at the bottom of the page.
3. Have plan reviewed and stamped before leaving campus today.

IDEAS AND CONTENT:

- subtly addresses **all nine yardsticks**
- uses a complex range of ideas from both stories to provide accurate, relevant, quality support
- shows exceptional insight into both stories as well as the purpose of each yardstick

ORGANIZATION:

- has inviting introduction that draws the reader in and indicates direction essay will take
- states the title and author of the works to be evaluated and compared
- develops ideas in logical and effective sequence
- uses thoughtful transitions that clearly show how ideas are connected
- controls the pace by varying sentence lengths
- flows smoothly toward a satisfying conclusion that leaves the reader with a sense of closure and resolution

VOICE:

- causes reader to feel strong interaction with writer, sensing the person behind the words
- takes a risk and reveals who you are and what you think
- reflects strong commitment to topic by showing why the reader should believe your view of these stories
- screams to be read aloud, shared, and talked about -- the writing, not you 😊

WORD CHOICE:

- reflects use of specific, interesting, and natural words
- reflects use of striking words and phrases
- reflects use of lively verbs and precise nouns and modifiers

SENTENCE FLUENCY:

- reflects use careful sentence structure that enhances meaning (What's in subordinate vs. independent clauses?)
- reflects use of varied sentence length and structure
- reflects use of creative and appropriate connectives between sentences, thoughts, and paragraphs
- creates a cadence that takes into consideration the sounds as well as meaning of the words

CONVENTIONS:

- reflects carefully edited so that spelling is correct (check for homophones)
- reflects correct punctuation, even creatively to help guide reader through the discussion of these two stories
- reflects correct grammar and usage that contribute to clarity and style (present tense to discuss incidents in fiction)
- reflects sound paragraphs that are unified around the development of one sub-topic
- reflects manipulated conventions for stylistic effect – and they work!

Plans for revision

To improve ideas and content, I will _____

To improve organization, I will _____

To clarify voice, I will _____

To make vocabulary more precise, I will change, add _____

To build better sentences and improve cadence, I will try _____