

# ESSAY #1 REVISION LAB

Rewriting, first and last sentences

# Rewriting

- Writing = rewriting
- Rewriting is a way to make sure you're producing the best work you possibly can
- Rewriting is an essential step in the writing process
- If you're not rewriting, you're not working hard enough

# Why rewrite?

---

- Your ideas become clearer
- Your sentences become stronger
- You eliminate repetitive sentences
- You eliminate sentences with too much summary
- You add sentences with substantial analysis

# Note

---

- When discussing the action in a work of literature, all your verbs should be the present tense.
- After the Rupture happens, Lenny looks for new and different ways to impress Eunice, who has become distant. Lenny stands at the window, searching for a signal for his apparat.

# What your paragraphs should be doing

- ▣ Looking for **specific images, words, or phrases** that suggest a deeper meaning (*the word “soft” could imply a double meaning here...*)
- ▣ Looking for **specific actions or pieces of dialogue** that suggest a deeper meaning (*Gregory is looking out the window when he declares his love, which could demonstrate...*)
- ▣ Thinking about **literary elements** (*It is important to remember the time period that this story takes place in...The narrator cannot completely be trusted because...Martin is a frightened, nervous character...*)
- ▣ **Make connections** to other parts of the story (*This scene reminds us of the beginning of the story where...Paul rejects Lisa just like his first love rejected him....We can see a pattern developing in this story...*)
- ▣ Comparing and contrasting whatever point you're making with **Eunice and Lenny's relationship**

# Pay attention to the flow of your ideas

- The ideas in each paragraph show flow logically
- There should be an obvious logical connection between each of them
- **Transitional words and phrases** can help improve the flow of your paragraph
- If they are not already there, insert a transitional word or phrase between each argument (quotation sandwich) in your essay
- Don't overuse transitions! One or two in each paragraph is usually enough

# Lab, Task One

- Choose one paragraph from your draft
- Copy and paste it onto your lab worksheet
- Rewrite the paragraph on your worksheet
- For the rewritten version, the ideas can be the same, but none of the sentences can be the same (except for the citations). Don't just change a few words. Completely rewrite the sentence. Take some sentences out that don't need to be there. Add sentences as necessary. Keep the citations the same. You can change the citations if you like.

# Topic sentences

- The first sentence of each paragraph is called a topic sentence
- It should introduce the ideas that you will be speaking about in that paragraph
- It's like a mini-thesis for each paragraph
- It should make an analytical, and not a factual statement
- It is usually a complex sentence
  - ▣ Simple: Jim loves Pam
  - ▣ Complex: Even though she rebuffs him, Jim still loves Pam.

# Lab, Task Two

---

- Rewrite the first sentence of each of your body paragraphs, making each of them stronger
- On your worksheet, copy and paste each topic sentence
- Below each one, write a new, better version

# Lab, Task Three (If you are finished other two)

---

- Repeat task one, for a different body paragraph

# Final revisions

- After you have finished rewriting, revising for ideas, content:
  - Punctuation before and after citations
  - Works Cited
  - Title
  - Edit thoroughly for grammar, spelling, sentence structure, diction, verb tense etc. Pay specific attention to the kinds of mistakes you were making on previous assignments

# Editing for grammar

---

- Always PRINT OUT YOUR DRAFT AND EDIT FOR GRAMMAR ON A HARD COPY
- Read it over at least 5 times for grammar. Each time, you can look for a specific issue (verb tense, spelling, sentence structure, etc.)