

Columbia University Writing Center
310 Philosophy Hall
bit.ly/columbiawritingcenter

M-Th: 9am-8pm
F: 9am-5pm
Su: 12-8pm

Questions? Email: writingcenter@columbia.edu

Revision: Clarity & Style

(based on a previous workshop given by Charlee Dyroff and Christina McCausland)

Nicole Kohut, Peer Fellow
Jason Ueda, Coordinator
Columbia University Writing Center

The next workshop:
Using Evidence Effectively
10/15, 2-3:30, Zoom

Goals for today:

1. Practice 2 revision strategies
2. Apply these to your current project

Freewrite: (5 minutes)

Describe your daily commute, or a recent trip you took.

Revision activities:

1. Cut your first or second sentence.
2. Change two verbs to more interesting ones. Eg: I went to the bathroom -> I rushed to the bathroom.
3. Change the location of at least two sentences.

Reflect on Process

When you were asked to make the revisions, what came easy, and what was more difficult?

HOC / LOC

HOC: Higher Order Concerns

Global errors - errors that impede a reader's understanding of a text.

Stage of intervention: Early and middle stages of drafting.

Ask: Can you say back my main ideas?

LOC: Lower Order Concerns

Local errors - errors that do not impede a reader's understanding of a text.

Stage of intervention: Late stage of drafting.

Ask: Are there moments in my text you notice minor errors you can easily ignore while reading?

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