

Using the RAW Site in Your Class: Assignments Ideas

Flex Day Fall 2018

Essay Revisions

Read the RAW Center checklist for editing and revising.

<http://laspositacollege.edu/raw/assets/docs/RevisingEditingChecklistRAWHelpSheet.pdf>

Then use the checklist to edit and revise your essay. Check off each item of the check list as you complete it, making needed changes to your essay draft. When you are finished, write a 200-word reflection on what changes you made and why; you will turn this in with your final draft.

Grammatical Sentences

Review the RAW Site pages on fragments and run-ons.

fragments: <http://laspositacollege.edu/raw/lpcrawfragments>

run-ons: <http://laspositacollege.edu/raw/lpcraw-run-ons.php>

Mark any possible fragments in your essay draft with an F. Mark possible run-ons with an R-O. Partner with a classmate to decide which of your marked sentences are truly fragments or run-ons. Then use the methods described on the RAW site to fix the sentence.

Writing Style

Review the RAW Site pages on formal language, vague language and wordiness.

<http://laspositacollege.edu/raw/formallanguage.php>

<http://laspositacollege.edu/raw/vaguelanguage.php>

<http://laspositacollege.edu/raw/wordiness.php>

Working in a group, read the first page of each group member's essay. Mark any informal expressions with an (I), vague language with a (V) and wordiness with a (W). Discuss the first page of each essay with the group and make suggestions of how to strengthen the informal, vague and wordy language.

Introductions and Thesis Statements

Review the RAW Site pages on introductions thesis statements.

Introductions: <http://laspositascollege.edu/raw/introductions.php>

Thesis statements: <http://laspositascollege.edu/raw/thesisstatements.php>

Write or revise your essay introduction based on the guidelines on the RAW Site. In class, share your introduction and thesis statement with a group. Does the introduction prepare readers for the thesis statement? Does the thesis statement explain specifically what the essay will be about?

Body Paragraphs

Review the RAW Site page on body paragraph structure.

<http://laspositascollege.edu/raw/bodyparagraphs.php>

Choose one body paragraph (a paragraph that is NOT the introduction or conclusion) to revise based on the guidelines on the RAW site. Bring the original and revised paragraph to class to share with a group. Does the revised body paragraph open with a topic sentence to show the main point? Does the paragraph include information and examples to support the main point? Does it return to the main point at the end?

Quotation Discussions

Choose one passage from the book that you would like to include as a quote in your upcoming essay. Then, read the RAW site page on discussing quotations:

<http://laspositascollege.edu/raw/lpcraw-discussingquotations.php>

When you have finished reading the page, click on the “Discussing Quotations Worksheet” at the bottom of the page. Use the worksheet to create a body paragraph discussing the quotation you chose.

Summaries

Review the RAW Site page on writing summaries.

<http://laspositascollege.edu/raw/summaries.php>

Working in a group, use the guidelines on this site to write a 300-word summary of the article from last week’s class. Each group will share their summary with the class.