
Name

Period

Date

Essay Edit

Now that you have completed the introduction, body and conclusion, you need to edit it and revise it as one piece of work. It is no longer three different parts, so each part must work together. Here are few places that you should pay special attention to as you revise:

1. Since we wrote the TBEAR first, some of the ideas in the topic sentence and background may also be in the introduction. Keep the introduction as is and make changes to the TBEAR body paragraph. For example if you repeat the title of the short story in your introduction and body paragraph, delete the title from the TBEAR. Make sure you have all parts of the T. B. E. A. R.

2. As you read over the entire essay, you may be repeating yourself. Here you should highlight any words that repeat, so you can either further develop the idea in the sentence or use the thesaurus to find another way to say it.

For example, if you repeat specific words take a moment to think about what you really mean. Can you use an example to make your idea more clear? Can you rearrange the sentence and take the idea a layer deeper? Like this: *"People should get credit for acts of kindness"* can become *"each person who generously offers a gift should receive a 'thanks' for the deed."*

3. You must get rid of all of "you" and "your" in your essay. Go back to the list that we created in class. Instead of "you" replace them with more precise words.

4. Cut out each time you write "I think" or "I believe." Since you are the author, we can assume that you believe what you write. Your sentences are stronger when you make your point without "I think" in front.

5. Verify that you write in present tense when you refer to an event in the short story. Check to see if you slip into past tense like: "Becky was determined" and change them to "Becky is determined." Stories are always referred to in present tense when writing about the story. Even if the story itself is written in the past tense, you refer to it in the present tense.

6. Check for periods at the ends of all sentences and capitalize the first word of all sentences. Have you capitalized the title of the short story you refer to?

7. Check over the score sheet (on back) and make sure you have all of the parts of the essay that you will be graded on.