



#10158 THE WRINKLE-FREE WORLD OF ENGLISH COMPOSITION: MODULE 4

CEREBELLUM CORPORATION, 2002
Grade Level: 11-13+
26 mins.
1 Instructional Graphic Enclosed

DESCRIPTION

Looks at revising a college paper and soliciting feedback. Touches on rewriting the thesis statement and the importance of transitional sentences. Delves into citing sources and the difference between paraphrasing and quoting a source. Explores the purpose of a paper's conclusion. Emphasizes rewriting the essay in its correct form, checking for proper spelling and grammar.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Language Arts–Writing

- Standard: Uses the general skills and strategies of the writing process
 - ◆ Benchmark: Drafting and Revising: Uses a variety of strategies to draft and revise written work (e.g., highlights individual voice; rethinks content, organization, and style; checks accuracy and depth of information; redrafts for readability and needs of readers; reviews writing to ensure that content and linguistic structures are consistent with purpose) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1.)
- Standard: Gathers and uses information for research purposes
 - ◆ Benchmark: Use standard format and methodology for documenting reference sources (e.g., credits quotes and paraphrased ideas; understands the meaning and consequences of plagiarism; distinguishes own ideas from others; uses a style sheet method for citing sources, such as the Modern Language Association, American Psychological Association, or Chicago Manual of Style; includes a bibliography of reference material) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2.)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To illustrate techniques and processes of revision.
2. To explain how to cite sources in academic writing.
3. To describe how to write a strong conclusion.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

See the Standards Deviants Web site

(http://www.standarddeviants.com/pls/brain/cerebellum.show_subject?p_subject_id=19) for a PDF file of Nathan's writing assignment and three drafts of his paper. Under "Helpful Cards," click on "English Composition Summary Sheet B." (See RELATED RESOURCES.)

VOCABULARY

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. argument | 8. preliminary |
| 2. bracketing the quote | 9. proofread |
| 3. cite | 10. reflect |
| 4. elaborated | 11. revising |
| 5. outline | 12. thesis statement |
| 6. paraphrase | 13. typos |
| 7. plagiarism | |

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Review the writing process.
2. Discuss the concepts of prewriting (freewriting, outlining), collecting sources, creating a thesis statement, writing an introduction and writing a first draft.
 - a. View the CMP video, #10156, *The Wrinkle-Free World of English Composition: Module 2*.
 - b. View the CMP video, #10157, *The Wrinkle-Free World of English Composition: Module 3*.
3. Write a first draft of an expository piece.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Discuss revising.
 - a. What is *revising*? When in the writing process does it occur? How can your thesis statement, outline, and introduction help in revision?
 - b. What is the difference between revising to reorganize and clarify your writing and revising to totally change the way you look at the content of your paper?
 - c. How does Nathan use his professor's comments to revise his draft?
 - d. What are some ways to improve a thesis? If you revise the thesis statement, how does this affect transition sentences?
 - e. How does Nathan's new thesis statement lead him to change the last sentence in his paragraph on jocks?
 - f. Why is it a good idea to create an outline near the end of the writing process?
2. Discuss citing sources.
 - a. What is the difference between a paraphrase and a quotation? What makes an effective paraphrase?

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

- b. How can you integrate a quote into the flow of the paper?
 - c. How can you avoid plagiarism? How does Nathan correct his plagiarism?
 - d. What details of the source must you have to make a correct acknowledgement?
3. What relationship do the introduction and thesis have to the conclusion? What is the goal of a conclusion? What makes Nathan's conclusion good?
 4. What happens during a final proofread? What must you be aware of when using spell check?

Applications and Activities

1. Take a quiz or test on the content of the four modules of English composition found at the Standard Deviants Web site. (See RELATED RESOURCES.)
2. Ask a reader to answer specific questions regarding a rough draft you have written. (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHIC.)
3. Do research for a paper you are writing. Add the research to your draft using direct quotations and paraphrases. Follow the style that your instructor prefers. Avoid plagiarism.
4. Practice writing conclusions that link to thesis statements and introductions. Consider including a quote and/or a personal anecdote.
5. Proofread drafts of your essays for grammar problems and typos. Use spell check, remembering to carefully read for correct word usage.
6. Create a reference sheet for citing a variety of sources. Include what information is needed to cite each source and what the citation should look like.

CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- [The Wrinkle-Free World of English Composition: Module 1 #10155](#)
- [The Wrinkle-Free World of English Composition: Module 2 #10156](#)
- [The Wrinkle-Free World of English Composition: Module 3 #10157](#)

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• STANDARD DEVIANTS: ENGLISH COMPOSITION

http://www.standarddeviants.com/pls/brain/cerebellum.show_subject?p_subject_id=19

This Web page has a downloadable test and quizzes meant for use after Module 4, in addition to Nathan's writing assignment and three drafts of his paper.

- **PARADIGM ONLINE WRITING ASSISTANT**

<http://www.powa.org/>

Paradigm is an interactive, menu-driven, online writer's guide and handbook. It includes information on topic discovery, organizing, revising, editing, documenting sources, and on four different kinds of essays.

- **A+ RESEARCH AND WRITING FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS**

<http://www.ipl.org/div/aplus/>

Includes a step-by-step guide to researching and writing a paper, a section on finding information in cyberspace and in your library, and links to resources for research and writing.

INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHIC

- REVISION QUESTIONS FOR A READER



Revision Questions for a Reader



Directions: Read through the questions below. Add an additional question of your own. Give the questions and your draft to a good critic of the topic, and ask them to write their answers in the "Answer from the Reader" column. Check when you have incorporated their suggestions into your draft.

Question to the Reader	Answer from the Reader	✓
1. Does my thesis statement have an interesting position on the topic?		
2. Does my argument backup my thesis?		
3. Have I used my research well?		
4. Are my introduction and conclusion engaging to the reader?		
5. Do my introduction and conclusion reflect the focus of my paper?		

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