

A Teacher's Guide to Student Revision

Image Grammar Ch 9

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Help your students build a systematic approach to revision. So often when told to revise a paper, students are unsure of what to be looking for. The following checklists will help point students in the right direction. These checklists help to:

*Focus the revision to a few significant items

*Make revision more manageable

Checklists

Style: Utilize five basic brushstrokes to help students bring their writing to life.

Appositives (rename the noun), Participles (-ing verbs), Absolutes (noun + -ing participle), Adjectives out of order, Action Verbs (reduce being verbs)

Conventions: Correct mechanics, punctuation, spelling etc.

Be sure not to overload a student's checklist in this area. Students will become overwhelmed. Use a small targeted list of problems. As you see more of a student's writing, have them create their checklist focusing on previous problems seen in their writing.

Form: Every genre and subgenre follow a form. Form is like the rules of the genre. A checklist should outline the structural qualities of the work. Providing students with this checklist gives them insights into these unique genre structures.

Content: This checklist will basically ignore many aspects of the writer's ideas. It focuses more on how the piece works together including unity, development, clarity, etc.