

## Today's Focus: Editing and Revision

### Warm Up:

Write the most boring poem possible in 3 min.

-it must be at least 3 lines long

-it CANNOT be the same word repeated over and over and over

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**Editing - simple changes, looking for better words, take out repetitive ones**

**Revision - re-read, read aloud, review, re-write, to change meaning, style, sound**

1. Development: have you written enough to cover your subject thoroughly, and do it justice?
2. Show, don't tell. Don't teach, preach or explain overtly, when you can do it through images (metaphors!), actions and stinky cheese smells (the senses)

#### **Explaining:**

He was really angry because his dad wasn't listening to what he said.

His dad kept talking over him until he stopped trying.

#### **Describing:**

His anger was a steam kettle on high heat.

His father was the flame, not listening to his whistle.

Til he was just left to burn.

3. Clarity. Does it ALL make sense? It should. While touching on the abstract is fine, being vague is a no-no.
4. Trim the fat. If you don't NEED it, it goes. Slash boldly! Especially notice all words, situations or ideas that are repeated. You do not have to use complete sentences
5. Precision: Word choice. Seek out fresh words/descriptions for every word you see! Avoid cliché's. Edit non-specific words: someone, anyone, everyone, somewhere, everywhere, anywhere, something, anything, everything...
6. Poetry is storytelling. Clear beginning...Turning Point..Clear Ending.

**This is the beginning of a poem. What can we cut from it? Cross out the words that aren't necessary**

so my head is kinda swimming  
with all sorts of ideas, and thoughts  
that i've been thinking,  
it's a lake of blurs and currents,  
it is murky in the shallows,  
crystal clear in the depths,  
where it's obvious what i'm thinking about.

***Take this boring poem and revise/edit the lines or add to them.  
Add emotion - Fear, anger, love, happiness, confusion, etc.***

***I woke up late. I ate fast and left for school.*** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***On the way to school my mind wandered a lot.***  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***The weather was nice.*** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***I went to my classes. They were boring today. Math was kinda fun, though.***  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***At lunch I got together with my friends. We laughed a lot.*** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***After school I walked home. The weather was nice, but different.*** \_\_\_\_\_  
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