

Methods for integrating revision into writing assignments

Revising and editing are two different processes. Editing, or proofreading, is searching your writing for errors, both grammatical and typographical. Revising is more substantive, addressing multiple issues concerning the effect of the piece. Additionally, revision should be taught in all the stages of a text's development. If provided opportunities by the instructor, the student author can play an important role in both revising and editing a piece before submitting it for a grade.

Pedagogies for revision

Guided peer review: student uses questions provided by instructor to critique peer's paper. Peer review is especially prized by writing instructors because critiquing the work of others trains students to critique themselves and helps them see another approach to the assignment.

Peer writing groups: students give, seek, and react to oral feedback among themselves.

Oral presentations: student explains ideas to class for writing project.

Example critiques: instructor critiques sample outline or plan or draft for entire class.

Revision checklist: students use a checklist to guide their revision process.

Role Play: student author or peer assumes the audience's stance while hearing aloud a draft

Pedagogies for editing/proofreading

Modeling: instructor presents editing strategies/problems to entire class. Grammar is usually best taught through relevant examples from their own work.

Editing checklist: students use a checklist to guide their editing process.

Guided peer editing: once trained on specific issues, students look for those problems in peers' papers.