

Rewriting a Research Paper

Most of writing is rewriting. When rewriting a research paper, here is a checklist of what to review to improve your rough draft. I have separated these into groups. Focus on the first group on your first rewrite of the essay, the second group on the second rewrite, and the third group when writing your final draft.



Review 1

- _____ All facts are accurate.
- _____ All data (numbers) are accurate.
- _____ Your thesis is clear.
- _____ All facts relate to the thesis.
- _____ Each paragraph has a focus.
- _____ Each paragraph's focus relates to your thesis.
- _____ If a chart or graph is included, its content is accurate.

Review 2

- _____ There are no run-on sentences.
- _____ There are no comma splices.
- _____ There are no fragments.
- _____ There are no rambling sentences.
- _____ There is a variety of short, medium-length, and long sentences.

- _____ There is a variety of simple, compound, and complex sentences.
- _____ There are no exclamatory sentences.
- _____ There are transition words and sentences to improve the flow of the paper.
- _____ When possible, words are vivid and interesting.
- _____ If possible, descriptions involve multiple senses.
- _____ If a chart or graph is included, it is mentioned in the main text.
- _____ Any charts or graphs are labeled and easy to read.

Review 3

- _____ All capitalization is correct.
- _____ All punctuation is correct.
- _____ Any other grammar rules you know are followed correctly.