

Ratiocination Proofreading Text

Using Colored Pencils to Edit an Essay

Step 1	<p>Using a BLUE colored pencil, underline the first sentence in your paper. Use a YELLOW colored pencil, underline the second sentence. Third sentence is underlined in BLUE, fourth sentence in YELLOW. Repeat pattern throughout the paper.</p> <p><i>Once you have completed the underlining, take a look at the paper. If you have one sentence that is several lines long, could it be a run-on? If you have many short sentences, could you combine some together?</i></p>
Step 2	<p>Using a GREEN colored pencil circle the first word of each sentence.</p> <p><i>Do you have a capital at the beginning of each sentence?</i></p>
Step 3	<p>Using a PURPLE pencil number the sentences in order. (There should be a number in front of every green circle).</p> <p><i>How many sentences do you have? A good paper would have over 20 sentences for a five paragraph essay. If you are short, consider adding descriptive sentences to make the paper more visual for your reader.</i></p>
Step 4	<p>Using a BLACK pencil list out the first word of each sentence in the margin of your paper.</p> <p><i>How many sentences start with the same word? You should not have more than three sentences starting with the same word. NO more than two sentences should start with the word "I". NO sentences should start with a conjunction (and, but, or)</i></p>
Step 5	<p>Using a RED pencil put a triangle around the ending punctuation of each sentence.</p> <p><i>Do you have punctuation at the end of each sentence? Did you remember not to have more than one end mark? For example, "I thought it was awesome!!!" is unacceptable.</i></p> <p><i>Do you have at least one question in your story?</i></p>
Step 6	<p>Using an ORANGE pencil, cross out every time you used the word "like" unless it is being used as a metaphor. For example: He moved like a football player trying to do ballet.</p>
Step 7	<p>Using your regular pencil put a square around three nouns and three adjectives that you can improve by using a thesaurus.</p>
Step 8	<p>Create your second draft using the improvements from this activity.</p>

Ratiocination

Clocking

1. 3 Groups of 7
2. Put desks in a circle
3. Each with a different color pencil
4. Have your paper out on your desk
5. Have the ratiocination paper out on your desk
6. Have your name on the top of the ratiocination paper
7. You are not reading the paper formally, you are just reading it to complete the steps
8. Each person in your group should initial by the step that they have completed
9. You have 5 minutes to complete your task
10. If you finish before the time is up, re-read it to make sure that you did not miss anything
11. If you do not get done, draw a line at the place where you stopped
12. When the time is up, get up and move to the next desk, take nothing with you but your pencil
13. Move in a clockwise rotation