♻ **The Peer Editing assignment is cancelled, so you'll submit your revised essay to Turnitin by 5/31, Tuesday at 9:00 am [periods 2 & 4] and 6/1 Wednesday at noon [periods 5 & 7].**

♻ **Make at least 5 improvements to your essay before your resubmit it to Turnitin. Highlight or Bold-face the revisions from your first draft.**

♻ **This handout contains my best suggestions for revising your essay. Pay particular attention to the Model Analysis body paragraph at the end of this handout.**

READ YOUR PAPER ALOUD all the way through. Read the words that are actually on the page.

Answer the following questions to help you revise:

1. Read the paper all the way through. What is your initial impression?

2. Now go back to the introduction. How might it be improved? [Do you need to add an attention-getter from the play? Do you need 1 sentence plot summary that leads to theme? Have you discussed theme, meaning of the work? Do you have transitions within you introduction so it flows? **Does thesis clearly addresses prompt?**

3. Analyze the topic sentences of each body paragraph. Do they clearly tie to the thesis?

    Hint: Read the Model Analysis Paragraph and my annotations at the end of this handout.

    Now read the thesis statement and all topic sentences of your essay aloud. Is every topic sentence well-developed? Does each topic sentence, including the first sentence of your conclusion, tie back to the thesis?

4. If you read just your thesis and then each topic sentence, do you have an intelligent paragraph? You should! Which sentences need improving?

5. Does each paragraph have relevant supporting quotations, at least 4 or 5? Indicate which paragraphs need more support.

6. Evaluate the choice of quotations. Do they best support the topic? Explain.

7. Are the quotations embedded in the text appropriately?

8. Are quotations introduced with enough context for you to understand their relevance?

9. Following each quotation is there sufficient analysis? Many analysis sentences should begin with the author's name [Ex: Shakespeare explores; Wilde satirizes]. Does the analysis tie the quotation to the topic sentence and thesis?

10. Do you tie the conclusion back to the introduction in some way? If not, how could you?

11. Are you satisfied with the conclusion? Does it EXTEND the meaning of the essay? [Note: The conclusion should be STRONG—it is more important than the introduction because it is the last impression you make!] Why or why not?

12. What is the weakest paragraph in the essay? Why? What would make it stronger?

13. Which sentences sound awkward, too slow, too long, too heavy, or out of tune? Which words or sentences need more spice?!

14. Eliminate as many "BE" verbs as possible – [BE verbs are these: is, was, were, are, be, being, being]. Use strong active verbs.

15. Check for MLA formatting, grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. On what should you focus? Read your paper backwards, one sentence at a time, to catch fragments and run-ons!

16. *Is this the BEST job you can possibly do?*

    Consider these things and don't lie to yourself. If something is in error, or omitted, or is not clear, FIX IT before you resubmit. Only when you are sure that you've written the best essay possible is it time to worry about formatting, punctuation, spelling, etc.

    REMEMBER: READING ALOUD IS THE BEST WAY TO REVISE AND TO PROOFREAD!

    Check out the next page for a model analysis paragraph . . .

Model Analysis Paragraph and Annotations

What am I looking for in your body paragraphs? Read the partial body paragraph and my annotations below.

 In Victorian times, there were many queer little quirks of society and aristocracy, and, in satirizing these odd, often hypocritical idiosyncrasies, **Wilde manages to add humor to his characters' repartee**. For instance, when Algernon and Cecily **discuss** the contents of Cecily's diary, Cecily **refuses** to let Algernon read it, stating that "it **is** simply a very young girl's record of her own thoughts and impressions and consequently meant for publication" (II.34). So, it **seems** that Cecily has written down her most private feelings so that one day they may be made public. Through Cecily's hypocrisy, **Wilde pokes fun at** the way Victorians supposedly prized their privacy, while at the same time delighting in gossiping and journaling and telling each other simply everything. **Wilde continues his mockery in the end of the scene as well . . .**

Schadt's Annotations:

--Gorgeous topic sentence! The topic sentence functions as the thesis statement of the paragraph as well as the transition back to the essay's thesis; that's why writing killer topic sentences is essential to earning top essay grades—yet another reason to make sure your topic sentences are thoughtfully crafted.

Ask yourself: Are your topic sentences as well-developed as they should be? Have you used the playwright's name at least 3 times in each paragraph?

--The writer correctly gives Wilde credit for throughout the paragraph and explains the quote's context in the play and it's significance to the thesis [how Wilde uses humor to criticize Victorian Society]. After the quotation, the write explains why it is funny [Cecily's wanting her private thoughts published] and connects Wilde's writing techniques to the thesis [Wilde manages to . . .; Wild pokes fun at. . . ; Wilde continues his mockery. . .]. Bien!

Ask yourself: Have you explained the quote's context in the play?
Have you shown its significance to the thesis?
Have you used the playwright's name at least 3 times in each paragraph?

--Notice that the paragraph is written in literary present tense [present tense verbs are purple. Why? Because every time someone reads or watches a work of literature, it happens anew.

Ask yourself: Have you written in literary present tense?