



Getting Feedback

Ideally, after you have done the first draft of your paper, you should be able to set it aside for a couple of days before writing your second draft.

Once your second draft is completed, it is time to get feedback before beginning your final set of revisions. There are a number of sources, briefly explained here, that you can use to get feedback on your paper.

Faculty

As part of the class, don't be surprised if your instructor requires you to submit the draft of your paper for evaluation. Even if this is not a required part of the course, you can still ask your instructor to review your manuscript and to give you feedback before you have to submit the final version of your research paper.

Friends

Friends can be great peer editors; especially if they have previously written a research paper. You might also form a work group with other students in the class. Your colleagues in the class can read your paper to give you feedback on what works in your manuscript as well as suggestions for improvement.

Relatives

If you decide to use a relative as a peer editor, you need to be sure that the individual you choose is able to point out strong points in your paper as well as to give constructive suggestions for improvement. And you need to make sure that you will not get too emotionally upset if the person does offer suggestions.

College Sponsored Writing Assistance

The college at which I teach has a program called Writing Fellows. Writing Fellows are students whom have received specialized training in order to assist other students with written assignments. Although the Writing Fellows Program is unique to Schoolcraft College, most colleges have some sort of writing program designed to help students.



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Suggestion for Success

Too often, students do not see the value of getting feedback—even from their instructor. Get feedback and then use it for doing revisions.

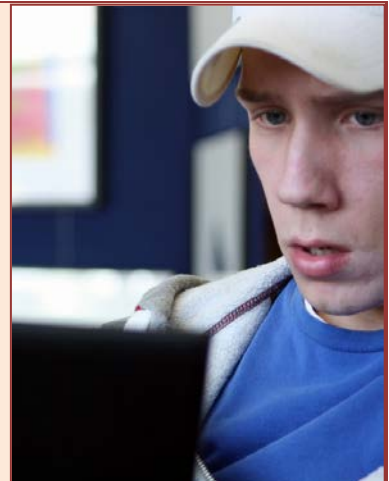
On-Line Resources

- Get Feedback
<http://writing.stevenberg.info/research/step07.html>
- Verify References
<http://writing.stevenberg.info/handouts/h032.html>

Peer Editing As A Strategy To Prevent Plagiarism

Ashworth and Bannister⁹ found that “some students have a fear that they might well plagiarize unwittingly in writing what they genuinely take to be their own ideas.” This fear could come from the fact that many students are unclear on the concept of plagiarism.¹⁰

In addition to double checking your references *against the original sources* and not just against your notes, ask a friend to verify your references for you.



⁹ Ashworth, Peter, and Philip Bannister. "Guilty in Whose Eyes? University Student's Perceptions of Cheating and Plagiarism in Academic Work and Assessment." *Studies in Higher Education* 22.2 (1997): 187+. Academic Search Premiere. 3 Nov 2007.

¹⁰ Thompson, Leonora C., and Portia G. Williams. "But I Changed Three Words!" *Clearing House* 69.1 (1995): 27+. Academic Search Premiere. 3 Nov 2007. Lathrop, Ann, and Kathleen Foss. *Student Cheating and Plagiarism in the Internet Era*. Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 2000. Academic Search Premiere. 3 Nov 2007.

