

Addition Revision

Purpose

Students will practice revising original drafts to include more descriptive detail or improve the sequencing of events.

Materials

For the teacher: chalkboard, colored chalk, story or piece written on a transparency to use as a model

For the students: rough draft of one of each student's writing pieces, colored pens or pencils

Activity

A. Pre-Activity Discussion

1. On the chalkboard, write a very basic sentence, such as: "The man walked down the street."
2. Have students volunteer to identify the nouns in that sentence and circle them.
3. Ask students to think of descriptors or details that they can add about these nouns.
4. Add their ideas on to the original sentence using a different color of chalk. Sentence may now read: "The grumpy old man walked down the dark and empty street."
5. Discuss with students how adding descriptive details makes their writing more interesting.

B. Activity: Whole Group Practice

1. Place a transparency of a short writing piece on the overhead.
2. Have students assist you in its revision.
3. Ask them to point out nouns to circle.
4. Have students suggest descriptors and details to add in to the piece.
5. Read aloud the newly revised piece of writing.

C. Activity: Independent Guided Practice

1. Have students circle nouns in their own writing pieces.
2. Have students add descriptors and details to revise and improve their writing pieces, using colored pens or pencils.

(continued)

EXTENDING
THE



ACTIVITY

Reverse the activity: have students take a complicated sentence and delete unnecessary words from it. After students have mastered this, give them several sentences and have them do both types of revision, marking deletions in red and additions in green.

INCORPORATING



TECHNOLOGY

Teach students how to revise their work using word processing software. You may want them to type additions in bold print for quick assessment.

Standards Links
2.4.5, 2.4.6

Activity (continued)


D. Close the Activity


Allow students to share their revised pieces in a peer-conference or small writing group.

Questions for Review

Basic Concepts and Processes

While students are working independently, ask them the following questions:

 How does addition-revision improve writing?

 What steps do you follow to revise to your writing?
