



Brainstorming

Follow the steps on this card in order to advance to the next space:

1. Brainstorming is an **IMPORTANT** step in the writing process. Don't skip it or cut it short. It can make the rest of your writing easier.
2. There are some brainstorming activity ideas below. You may find that you need to use more than one idea for your current writing task. Select the one(s) that best fit the writing task you are working on.
 - Make a list.
 - Conduct research.
 - Formal or informal reading.
 - Interview people/person
 - Webbing, clustering, or use of graphic organizers.*
 - Remember/Recall
 - Draw
 - Discuss
 - Free write, notebook or journal writing.
 - Take notes.
3. When you have selected your brainstorming writing activities from the list above, begin prewriting using them.
4. When you are finished with step 3, go to the next square in the game, "Outlining" and place your game marker there.



Outlining

Writing outlines can be an important part of writing. Sometimes you will find that your paper almost writes itself, so to speak, when you have a well written outline to work from.

1. Make an outline for your assignment using the tips below:
 - a. Use a format similar to the following:

	Topic
I. Main Point 1	
A. Subpoint	
i. Detail 1	
ii. Detail 2	
iii. etc	
B. Subpoint 2	
i. Detail 1	
II. Main Point 2	
A. Subpoint	
i. Detail 1	
ii. Detail 2	
iii. etc	
B. Subpoint 2	
i. Detail 1	
III. etc	
 - b. Use phrases in the outline instead of complete sentences
 - c. Add as many subpoints and detail as you can, it should make the rest of the writing easier.
2. When you have made an outline, go to the next square, "Beginnings" and place your marker there.



Beginnings

The beginning or opening of your writing is important. A "great beginning" can draw your readers into your work, making them want to read more. But a bad beginning can turn readers away and make them want to put down your work. Below are some ideas for how to give your writing a "great beginning."

- _ Announcement
 - _ Background information
 - _ Bold and challenging statement
 - _ Climactic lead
 - _ Definition
 - _ Dialogue
 - _ Enumerated general statement
 - _ Figurative language
 - _ Hypothetical situation/scenario
 - _ Opinion
 - _ Personal experience
 - _ Question
 - _ Quotation
 - _ Riddle
 - _ Striking fact/statistic
1. Try a beginning from the list above, or choose your own and write a beginning for your assignment. Remember, your beginning will usually be your topic sentence so it must contain the main idea of your assignment.
 2. You may want to try out a couple of beginnings above to see what feels right for your paper.
 3. If you need explanations and examples of the beginnings above, see "Great Beginnings"
 4. When you have written a beginning, you may advance to the next square "Write It" If you are not totally satisfied with your beginning, don't worry, you can always change it later.



Write It:

1. Take your outline and beginning and begin to write by following your outline.

You may write on paper or type on the computer.

You may want to double space your work so that you have room for editing marks.

2. This “turn” is over when you have a recognizable beginning, middle, and end.

3. Go to the next space, Great Job/Take A Break



Take a Break

Great Job. Now....

Sometimes it is good to take a break from your work and come back to it with fresh ideas. So....take a break, a few minutes, hours, or even a day or two (depending on when your assignment is due).

Put away the game for now, when you are ready to get back to work, go to the next space: Welcome Back



Revision Activity 1

Revising means to see again and also includes getting reader response.

1. Take out your paper and reread it.
2. If possible, have someone read your paper and give you feedback.
2. Taking into account your reader feedback, and the tips below, begin to revise your paper:

Writers typically go through three distinct stages of revision:

- Adding on. This is the easiest kind of revision to accomplish. After hearing from readers, writers often realize they have left out important **details**. See if there are any details you left out. Compare with your outline.
 - Moving around. As the writer adds more materials, ideas may begin to “bump” into each other or interact in unforeseen ways. Getting things in the right order becomes more and more important. Make sure you have things in the correct order.
 - Cutting out. This is the hardest thing to do, but it is often the most valuable. By this point the writer may have accumulated far more material than he originally planned. Is there any material that isn't necessary, or doesn't fit with your main idea?
3. After you have revised using the tips above, go to the next space, Revise 2.



Revise Activity 2: Transition Words

Transition words help you move smoothly from one idea to the next.

1. Lightly circle your transition words.
2. Read over the following examples of transition words. If you see something better than what you wrote, replace it.

Sample transition words:

first	moreover
in addition to	second
furthermore	specifically
for example	to explain
for instance	in other words
to describe	restated
translated	actually
by the way	for instance
however	in the first place
meanwhile	on the other hand
yet	afterward
in the meantime	nevertheless
similarly	consequently
otherwise	as a matter of fact
better yet	

Here are some transition words arranged by writing type:

Compare/Contrast:

<u>Similar</u>	<u>Differences</u>
is similar to	however
both	on the other hand
also	but
too	in contrast
as well (as)	differs from
still	while
in common	whereas
similarly	although
	as opposed to
	even though
	otherwise
	yet
	instead
	compared with
	different from

Sequence Transition Words:

first: first, the first, first of all, it started when, to start, one way, at first, at the beginning, in the beginning, to begin, in the first place, one example, for example, the most important

second: second, another, in addition, along with, also, after, the second, next, after that, also, second of all, the next, in addition, besides, as a result, another ways, after, following this, afterward, then, after that, also, another example, another important

third: third, next, likewise, equally important, finally, last, the third, the last step, another, therefore, a third way, a final method, eventually, to conclude, at last, all in all, the final important, the last example
continued on next card



continued

Generalization/Principle:

additionally	always
because of	clearly
conclusively	first
furthermore	generally
in fact	it could be argued that
never	not only...but also
therefore	third
for instance	for example
moreover	most convincing
often	second
truly	typically

Process/Cause:

accordingly	as a result
because	finally
first	for this reason
how to	how
if...then	in order to
is caused by	leads/led to
may be due to	next
so, so that	steps involved therefore
thus	next
when...then	after
afterward	as soon as
before	during
finally	later
meanwhile	not long after
now	on (date)
preceding	soon
second	then
third	today
until	when

Description:

above, across, along, appears to be, as in, behind, below, beside, between, down, in back of, in front of, looks like, near, on top of, onto, outside, over, such as, to the right/left, under

Ok, now that you have revised for transition words, Move to the next space, "Revise 3."



Revision Activity 3: Sentence Variety

Look at the first word of each sentence in your paper. How do they start? If you have transition words, then look to the next word.

1. Do all your sentences start with a "who" (the subject?)

If so consider:

Starting your sentences with a variety:

What (verb e.g. Jumping into the car)
 When(In the morning, last night)
 Where (in the street, near the old car)
 Why (in order to)
 How (Quickly, eagerly)

and if you must start with a "who" make sure you describe the "who"

instead of The man, use The old, weak man

instead of the teacher → Mr. Graham, the science teacher,

2. Did you use a variety of sentence types:

declarative, imperative, interrogative, exclamatory

If not, see if you can vary your sentence types.

3. After you check the above, move to the next space, "Revise 4 "



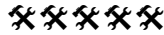
Revision Activity 4:

Adjectives and Adverbs



1. Read your sentences. See if you can add an adjective to each noun or adverb to each verb to make the sentence more interesting.

2. Go to the next space, Revise 5.



Revision Activity 5: Word Choice

Examples of turning bland, overused words.....

said good big small went look
laugh slow happy sad nice eat

into zippy, livelier ones.

Said - whispered, cried, screamed, hollered, shrieked, bellowed, believed, wept, howled, wailed, blubbered, shouted, exclaimed, called, yelped, screeched

Good - nice, pleasant, well-behaved, excellent, gracious, phenomenal, extraordinary, unique, fantastic, awesome, super, fabulous, wonderful, amazing, exceptional

Big - large, huge, enormous, gigantic, gargantuan, giant, immense, great whopping, extensive, massive

Small - tiny, miniature, teeny, little, microscopic, petite, undersized, minute

Laugh - chortle, chuckle, grin, guffaw, crow, titter, cackle, hoot, giggle, snicker

Slowly move - swagger, saunter, shuffle, meander, amble, stroll, sluggish

Happy - tickled, elated, thrilled, lighthearted, delighted, ecstatic, blissful, jovial, overjoyed, jubilant

Sad - pitiable, downhearted, woebegone, forlorn, dispirited, miserable, wretched, dejected, disheartened, depressed

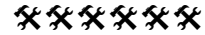
Went - traveled, meandered, scurried, trotted, hurried, scuttled, rushed, darted, dashed, hustled, crept, crawled, edged, strolled, roamed, wandered, ambled, scampered

Nice - pleasant, good, kind, polite, satisfying, enjoyable, pleasing, pleasurable, lovely, amusing, cheery

Look - peer, gaze, peek, stare, glance, peep, glimpse

Eat - nibble, crunch, gobble, wolf, munch, chomp, devour, gorge, swallow, gnaw, chew, bite, snack

1. Look for bland words and use a thesaurus to find more interesting words. Then go to next space, "Revise 6"



Revision Activity 6: Conclusion

1. Review the following conclusion tips and revise your conclusion, if necessary

Example Conclusions:

In fact, Surely, Clear, Truly
Definitely, Obviously, Certainly,

Surely, there are other cookies that are good, but chocolate chip are the best.

Clearly, I enjoyed our trip to the zoo.

Occasion/Position concluding sentences:

When you compare.... you can see....

Even though both....., they have some things in common.

After studying, I see how many similarities they have.

While both..... have things that differ, they certainly have a variety of things in common.

Other occasion/position words to use in a concluding sentence

after, as soon as, even though, though, where, although, because, if, unless, wherever, as, before, in order that, until, whether, as if, even, since, when, while, as long as, even if, so that, whenever

Methods to Use in Concluding Sentences

Summarize Information

In fact, soccer is a great sport for boys and girls.

Encourage your reader to take action

When someone does something wrong, we should speak up

Convince (try) your reader of your position
Honestly, bicyclists should wear helmets.

Challenge your reader to think

Everything you hear about a product may not be true; stop and think about the product before you waste your money.






2. After revising your conclusion, move to the next space, Editing.



Editing.

1. Use the Proofreading Checklist below to edit your paper:

Have I:

-  Used capitals correctly?
-Proper Nouns (names of people and places, titles, days of week, months, holidays)
-First Word of the sentence
-  used Periods, commas, exclamation marks and quotations marks in the rightplaces?
-  checked my spelling?
-  Indented each paragraph?
-  Checked to see if my sentences make sense?




Tip: Read your sentences aloud. Slowly read what you actually SEE not what you thought you wrote.

2. Once you are finished, moved to the next space: Publishing



Publishing

Now that you have made all your changes, 1. prepare your final copy:

-  Give your work an interesting and properly capitalized title
-  Rewrite or type up
-  Add graphics

2. Move to the next space

Markers

Use one of the following game markers, or make your own.

