

# TAKS Scoring and Strategies: Examining Our Writing

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# Getting Started

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- K-*What do you know about 4<sup>th</sup> grade writing?*
  - W-*What do you want to learn/gain today?*
  - L-*What did you learn/gain today?*
  - A-*How does what I learned/gained affect me?*
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# Kids' Thoughts on Writing: Students Can Always Say It Best



- ❑ Writing is putting your inside feelings outside. – *Micah*
- ❑ Writing is putting your talk on paper and letting others read your talk. - *Sophia*
- ❑ Writing to me is a way to share my thoughts. There is my personality, right on a piece of paper. – *Elizabeth*
- ❑ Writing gets me interested in reading and reading gets me interested in writing. – *Renee*
- ❑ Writing takes a lot of trying, but when you move past the hard spots, it starts rolling off your tongue (I guess I should say your hand!). - *Aman*

*Teaching Writing in Grades 3-11, Region IV, p. 5.*

# Examining Revision

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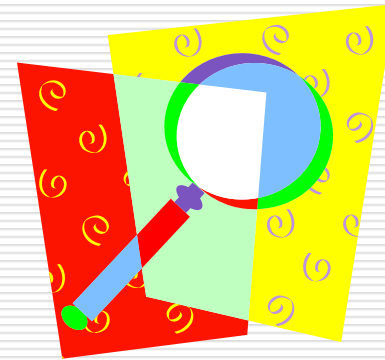
- Time
- Quality Instruction
- Every Teacher's Responsibility
- Reading and Writing Connection
- Well Trained Teachers

# Examining Revision in Quality Writing

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- Revision is...
  - Seeing again
  - More complex than correcting
  - Reentering writing
  - Demanding
  - Continuous
  - Often neglected

- Revision is not...
  - A final act
  - recopying



# Encouraging Revision

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## □ Ways to Encourage Revision

1. Time to write
2. Questioning
3. Organization
4. Effective Strategies



# Encouraging Revision

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## 1. Time to write

- How much do your students write within a one-week period?
- THINK-WRITE-PAIR-SHARE:
  - Quantity: Amount of time?
  - Quality: Types of writing?

# Encouraging Revision

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## 2. Questions to Fuel Revision

- Internal questioning throughout the writing process
- Categories of Questions:
  - Focus and Coherence
  - Organization
  - Development of Ideas
  - Voice
  - Conventions



# Encouraging Revision

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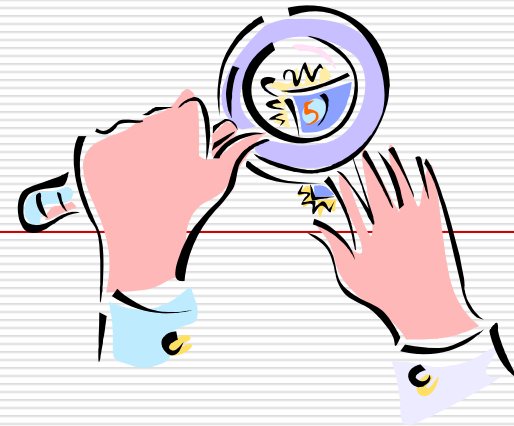


## 3. Organized System

- Classroom/Physical Environment
  - Arrangement:
    - Places for students to talk, listen, read, and write
    - Reading/writing materials available
    - Word Walls
    - Writing displays/celebrations
    - Revision Station
  - Accessibility of Writing
    - Writer's notebook / folder
  - Documenting Writing
    - List of works in progress
    - Topics for future writing

# Encouraging Revision

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## 4. Effective Strategies

### □ Goal:

- identify areas of concern, AND
- use strategies to address these areas to enhance the writing

### □ Strategy Instruction:

- modeling
- practice
- scaffolding

# Editing vs. Revision

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## □ Editing:

- refines the details
- conventions used accurately
- reevaluating sentence structure and word choice

## □ Revision:

- enhancing a central theme
- expanding/clarifying ideas
- repositioning sections
- sense of audience



Editing, in short, is touching up; revision is rethinking the whole project.”

(Spandel, 2001, p.138)

# Examining Our Writing

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- TAKS Rubrics
- Student Samples

