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**ENGN6250 /​ COMP6250 |** Professional Practice 1

Week 8 **Communication Task**

Technical Writing

**Revise the text and the visuals in Figure 2.1 from Neuen & Tebeaux (2017), Chapter 2, pp. 47-48 below.**

Figure 2.1 A definition of flocking for middle school students

**What Is Flocking?**

Why do hawks fly together in a group? Haven’t you noticed that you often see hawks flying together rather than just one hawk flying all by itself?

Soaring birds, such as hawks and vultures, migrate in flocks, groups of birds that fly close together. Scientists have studied why hawks like flying together in flocks. These scientists have concluded that hawks travel as a group to help each other fly in the right direction. Another possible reason is that a group of hawks traveling together can find thermals more easily than can one hawk flying all by itself.

What are thermals and why are they important to soaring birds? Thermals are bubbles of warm air that rise from the ground into the sky. Hawks get inside these thermals and circle high in the air. When they reach the top of the thermal, they glide down to the bottom of the next one, then up again and down until they arrive home. Their flight looks like this:

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx FIGURE XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

So hawks, by using thermals, which are natural warm air currents, can circle and glide rather than flap their wings. As a result, they save energy as well as time. That’s why you see hawks flying together. Working together, they can find these thermals, rather than looking for them alone.