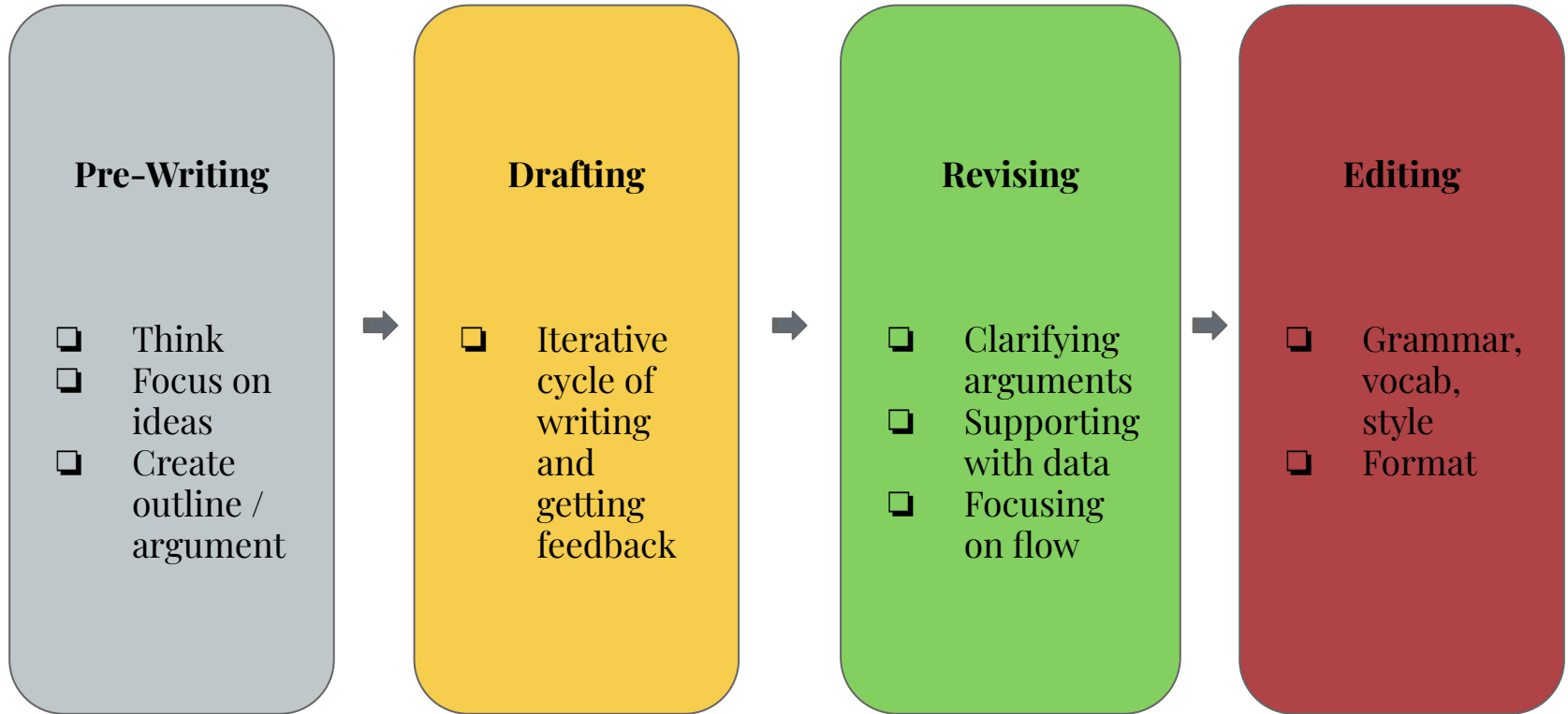


Drafting & Revising

Academic Writing

The Writing Process



Step One: Pre-Writing

Skipping this step is a common mistake that just creates more work later.

- ❑ Make sure you understand what it is you're trying to say
 - ❑ Make sure your argument is constructed in such a way as to show that
 - ❑ Create an outline that can serve as a scaffolding when it comes time to write
-

Step 2: Drafting

The First Draft

- ❑ Should be messy: just getting your ideas into words and on paper
- ❑ What *exactly* are you trying to say: “What did we learn that we didn’t know?”
- ❑ Has none of the formal niceties (abstract, introduction, citations)
- ❑ Should *completely transform* before the end of the process

It is not uncommon for
professionally
published writing to
go through 3+ *drafts* –
not small changes,
whole drafts

How to Provide Peer Feedback

- ❑ Focus on what you are *asked* to do
 - ❑ Help them communicate *their* ideas better
 - ❑ Be honest with what works – and what doesn't (positive mixed with negative)
 - ❑ Give them the framework of what to fix, with ideas/suggestions, but be open to others
-

How to Receive Peer Feedback

- Don't lose the forest (the overall message) for the trees (specific details)
- Make sure you understand *why* the specific critiques are being given
- Assume good will and a genuine desire to make your writing better

Steps 3 & 4: Revising & Editing

Revising & Editing

Revising

- ❑ Focused on content
- ❑ Adding data
- ❑ “Does this make sense?”
- ❑ Should finalize the structure

Editing

- ❑ Focused on details
- ❑ Fixing typos/mistakes
- ❑ “Must” involve someone else
- ❑ Formatting for publication

Only move on to Revising and Editing once you – and your readers – are essentially satisfied with your article. There is no point in moving on until you have a good draft.

Practice 6.1: Write a Second (and Third) Draft

Step 1: *Using the feedback I have provided you – and the time and distance since last class – rework your initial draft into a second draft. – 20 minutes*

Step 2: *Break into groups for peer feedback. - 10-15 minutes*

Step 3: *Write a third draft. - 15 minutes*

Step 4: *Turn in your first draft (with my notes) and your third draft.*