

Thinking About Your Draft: Higher Order Concerns

Academic Skills Center * Shoreline Community College

Your answers to the questions below can help you assess your writing at a draft or revision stage. If you don't know the answers, consider talking with your teacher or a learning assistant in the Academic Skills Center. If you answer "no" to any of the questions, then that could be the issue to focus on to improve your paper. You should address these concerns before you spend much time on your grammar, spelling, punctuation, or sentence structure!

1. Who is my **audience**? What do they already know about my topic?

Before my audience reads this paper, they think _____ about this topic.

After my audience reads this paper, they will think _____ about this topic.

2. What **details** (examples, facts, explanations, reasons, causes, effects, etc.) do I develop to support my main idea (or thesis)?

3. Have I provided **enough details** (development)? Which ideas need more support? (Each idea must be supported with more than one sentence!)

4. Does each paragraph stay **focused** on one idea? Where did I get off the subject?

5. What **transitions** have I used? Do I show how each sentence and paragraph is connected to the one before it? How can I improve the flow(coherence) of my paper?

6. Have I written a good **conclusion**? Or have I just summarized the main points in a repetitive way?
