

**Passion paper Self Edit of Part 1 and 2--PRINT a hard copy to edit on!**  
Revising is the **HARDEST** part of writing! You spend so much time writing your paper. Always take pride in it by making it better! Turn in your very best effort! Be patient. Your writing will improve!! You can do it!

1. Read each section of your paper through **OUT LOUD** without stopping. Did you write sentences that don't make sense? Put in question marks to yourself as you read.

2. Look for overuse of the **be** verb (is, are, was, were, has, have, had, do, does, did, get, got) Good writers use **ACTIVE** verbs instead of linking verbs. **Highlight in blue or green** all instances of the **be** verb that you see in your paper and work to eliminate as many instances as you can.

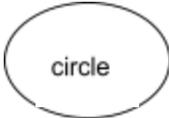
Samples from previous essays:

**Instead of** "My passion **is** fishing" or "I **am** passionate about fishing" **write**

**Instead of** "Spending three days fly fishing in Colorado hooked me for life."

3. Star † any "**There/Here is**" or "**There/Here are**" (there was, there were) at the beginnings of your sentences. **Eliminate** through revision.

**Instead of** "**There are** several reasons I'm passionate...." write "My love of fishing ignited my desire to..."

4. Find,  and **ELIMINATE** any and all of the following words:

a lot, really, very, nice, good, thing(s),  
pretty, stuff, sucks, crap, sort of, kind of,  
great

**GET RID OF THESE OVERUSED, NON-SPECIFIC words!**

5. Good writers work for variety in sentence beginnings. **Highlight in pink or orange** every sentence in your paper that **begins with the word "I."** If you see too many sentences (no more than two sentences in a row or three in a full that begin in the same way, you **MUST** vary the openers with prepositional phrases, adverb or adjunct. clauses, single word adjectives.

**Instead of** : I first started knitting when I was eight. I got my first pair of pink knitting needles from my aunt. My first completed project was an uneven scarf.

**Write**: At just eight years of age, I knitted my first uneven scarf using a pair of pink knitting needles I received from my aunt. **(No I's or My's!)**