

Revision 1 – Reading for fluency

Take the unrevised form of the essay and read it through, noting those passages where the talk in print breaks down: where it's difficult to continue to read fluently with the right emphasis and rhythm. Remember, your ear can often pick up awkward passages much more effectively than your eye. So, for this you may find it more effective to get someone else to read it through to you or just read it out loud to yourself. You'll soon see where your reading stumbles because the fluency of the writing has broken down.

The importance of this revision lies in making it clear to yourself where you will need to rewrite. Although you'll pick up other problems as you go through each subsequent revision, this lays down clear markers that these are problem passages and will have to be looked at.