

## WHAT NOT TO DO: REVISING

Sure, looking at what to do is helpful, but sometimes looking at what not to do can be of even greater help. So, what shouldn't you do when revising a paper?

In general, while revising:

Don't wait until the end. Revising should happen throughout the writing process.

Don't mistake revising for proofreading; revising is much bigger.

Don't focus on small picture concerns, such as grammar, spelling, or sentence level mistakes. Focus on larger picture concerns, such as the coherence of your argument, organization, and the strength of your thesis.

Don't procrastinate on revision; major things may change, and you don't want to make major changes when doing final editing.

*Don't be afraid to omit portions that are irrelevant to the main point, even if they are well-written or interesting portions.*

Don't forget to reread the assignment prompt. You may have missed something.

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