



Expository Reading & Writing Course
Common Core Assignments Regarding Language Arts

Part

E

Writing Rhetorically:
Entering the Conversation

Renaissance Unit

ACTIVITY 18:
Composing a Draft

Students will take the following steps to begin a draft of their Summary Guide. This involves looking at all of the information they have gathered for each of the six parts of the summary:

1. The name of the author and title of the article; where and when it was published; the topic of the article
2. The question that the researcher wanted to answer and where they looked to find an answer
3. The common belief about what is change, how it was important during the Renaissance and how it is important today and in the future
4. The major features of change during the Renaissance
5. The examples that Landau offers to support her argument
6. Landau's purpose for writing this article

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<u>ACTIVITY 19:</u> <u>Revising Rhetorically</u> Peer Review	<u>Peer Group Work</u> Students will form groups of 3-4 peers. Each student will read each summary and give feedback by completing the evaluation form that the teacher will distribute. <u>Paired Work</u> Students will work with a partner to decide how to revise the problems identified by the partner. <u>Individual Work</u> Student will revise their draft based on the feedback from their peers. Their revisions will involve answering the following questions for their own work: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Have you responded to the assignment? Does your summary include all six parts of the Summary Guide?2. What should you keep? What is most effective?3. What should you add? Where do you need more details or specifics?4. What could you get rid of? Did you use details that don't need to be included or are irrelevant? Do you repeat yourself?5. What should you change? Are parts of your summary confusing? How can you explain some ideas more clearly?6. What should you rethink? Did you present Landau's ideas so that someone who has not read Landau's article would understand the article's major parts and ideas?7. How is your tone? Are you too informal?8. Have you used key vocabulary words? Did you use them correctly?

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<u>ACTIVITY 20: Editing the Draft</u>	<p>Now that you have revised your summary, work with the <u>grammar</u> and <u>mechanics</u> of your draft to make sure that your use of language is effective and follows the guidelines of standard written English. The suggestions below will help you edit your own work:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Set your summary aside a few hours before rereading to find errors.2. Read your summary out loud so you can hear your errors.3. Focus on individual words and sentences rather than overall meaning.4. Use the dictionary to check spelling and make sure that you have chosen the right words for your purpose.5. Make sure that you have capitalized Landau's name, the title of her article and the publisher, and that the title is in quotation marks.6. If you have used Landau's own words in your summary, make sure that they are in "quotation marks."
<u>ACTIVITY 21: Reflecting on the Writing Process</u>	<p>When you have completed your own essay, answer these three questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What was difficult about this assignment? What was easy?2. What did you think are the strengths of your summary? Place a star by the parts of your essay that you feel are very good. What are the weaknesses, if any, of your summary? Place an X by parts of your summary you would like help with. Write any questions you have in the margin.3. What did you learn from this assignment about your own reading and writing process--about reading and rereading, preparing to write, writing the first draft, revising, and editing?