

FAH101 Revision Workshop

Step One: Understanding the assignment

Let's talk about the assignment, and briefly review Prof. Iarocci's discussion of revision.

Step Two: Understanding what you need to do

Reread the question you chose and write down, in your own words, what it is asking you to do.

"For this paper, I need to ..."

What are the key terms and ideas in the question? Underline them or write them down. Note: Pay particular attention to verbs and to adjectives (i.e., words that modify nouns—for example, "critical" in "critical essay").

Do some brainstorming about what kinds of things your essay will need to have in order to answer the question. What **key terms** do you need to use? What **definitions** do you have to provide? What **points** do you have to discuss? What **facts** do you have to include relating to these points? What **background information** do you have to give the reader, what **sources** do you have to refer to, etc.?

Share your answers with your neighbor. Did you both identify the job, the key terms, and the things that you need to include in the same way?

Did your TA have a point? And if so, what can you do to respond to these comments? What changes to your paper are these comments calling for and what could you do to make those changes?

Share your answers with your neighbor. Does he or she agree with your understanding of the issues that the TA pointed out? Does he or she have any comments about your responses to them?

Compare your argument to what the question is asking you to do. Do they fit together? Are you responding to what the question asks? If not, what parts need to be changed? Or, from another point of view, are there parts of your argument that you no longer like or agree with?

What extra information would be helpful to you in developing this argument? "It would be useful for me to know about ..."
