



The Craft of Revision, Anniversary Edition

By Donald M. Murray

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Pulitzer Prize-winning author Donald M. Murray's lively and inspiring approach to writing and revision does not condescend but invites you into the writer's studio. The ANNIVERSARY EDITION includes a new foreword by Brock Dethier, Writing Program Director at Utah State University and former University of New Hampshire colleague of the late Donald Murray. They met in 1978 and when Dethier later became an adjunct instructor at UNH, struggling to balance his teaching career with his dreams of getting published, Murray was a source of guidance and support. Dethier offers not only an introduction to the "man behind the book," but a retrospective of Murray's significant contributions to the Composition world and the ways in which THE CRAFT OF REVISION helps you to actually DO the writing--not just talk about it.

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Editorial Review

Review

1. REWRITE BEFORE WRITING. Why Do We Resist Rewriting? An Invitation: Write with Me. How Do You Find Something to Write About. Be Specific. End-of-Chapter Interviews. Interview with a Published Writer--Elizabeth Cooke. 2. HOW TO GET THE WRITING DONE: TRICKS OF THE WRITER'S TRADE. Nulla Dies Sine Linea. Establish Achievable Deadlines. Break a Writing Assignment into Small Daily Tasks. Know Tomorrow's Task Today. Keep a Daybook. Rehearse. A Writer's Place. 3. READING FOR REVISION. Test Readers. Where Do We Find Test Readers? What Test Readers Do. The Danger of Test Readers. Setting the Reader's Agenda. Reading Writing in Process. Techniques of Responding. Methods of Reader Response. 4. REWRITE WITH FOCUS. Elements of Focus. Clarity. Premature Focusing. How to Focus. How Do I Make an Instructor's Idea My Own? How Do I Make the Boss's Idea My Own? Focus Repair. Diagnosis: No Focus. Say One Thing. Frame Your Meaning. Set the Distance. Interview with a Published Writer--Christopher Scanlan. 5. REWRITE WITH GENRE. Choosing the Genre. Genre Provides Meaning. Diagnosis: Ineffective Genre. Genre Communicates Meaning. Discovering the Genre for the Draft. The Essential Narrative. Design Your Own Genre. Case History of a Student Writer--Maureen Healy. 6. REWRITE WITH STRUCTURE. Diagnosis: Disorder. Answer the Reader's Questions. Outline After Writing. Interview with a Student Writer--Kathryn S. Evans. 7. REWRITE WITH DOCUMENTATION. Diagnosis: Too Little Information. The Importance of Information. The Qualities of Effective Information. The Basic Forms of Information. Where Do You Find Information? Writing with Information. Interview with a Student Writer--Jennifer Bradley-Swift. 8. REWRITE TO DEVELOP. Diagnosis: Superficial. Techniques of Development. Rewriting Starts with Rereading. Read Fragments. Read What Isn't Written. Rewrite within the Draft. Emphasize the Significant. Pace and Proportion. Length. 9. REWRITE BY EAR. What Is Voice? Hearing Your Own Writing. Diagnosis: No Voice. Hearing the Writer's Voice. Hearing Your Own Voice. Case History of a Professional Writer--Donald M. Murray. 10. REWRITE WITH CLARITY. Twenty Ways to Unfinal a Draft. The Attitude of the Editing Writer. Interview Your Draft. Solutions to Common Editing. The Craft of Editing. A Student Case History--Roger LePage, Jr. 11. THE CRAFT OF LETTING GO. Why Writers Don't Let Go. How to Let Go. When You Let Go.

About the Author

Donald M. Murray was a Professor of English at the University of New Hampshire where he inaugurated a journalism program, helped establish a graduate program in Composition Studies, and served as director of Freshman English and English Department chairperson. He twice won awards for his teaching and was awarded honorary doctoral degrees by the University of New Hampshire in 1990, Fitchburg State College in 1992, and New Hampshire College in 1997. As a journalist, Murray won a number of awards including the Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing in the *Boston Herald* in 1954. He was an editor of *Time* and has served as writing coach for several newspapers, including the *Boston Globe* and the *Providence Journal*. In 1991 *Boston* magazine and in 1996 *Improper Bostonian* magazine selected him best columnist in Boston. In 1997 the University of New Hampshire opened the Donald M. Murray Journalism Library. He received recognition for Lifetime Achievement during the New Hampshire Literary Awards in 2001. In 2003 *Writing on the Edge* established the Donald M. Murray Prize. This award is given to the author of the best work of creative nonfiction on the subject of writing published the previous year.

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