

Name: _____

Draft Two Paper Two Working on Clarity

Keep in mind the following as you move from draft two to draft three:

1. To make your writing stronger, try to eliminate constructions that begin *It is, This is, There is*, unless *This* or *It* refers to a specific noun or pronoun.

How would you change the following sentence?

It is only then that she begins to read the basic novel, and the heart of her socializing was always done in the company of her newfound friend.

2. Make your subject do the action. Use the active voice, and avoid using the passive voice whenever possible.

How would you change the following sentence?

However if her actions are truly analyzed almost everything she says turns out to be a white lie or a device to draw attention to herself.

How would you change the following sentence?

Instead, she could always be found playing cricket as rough as any boys, or painting her face with mud instead of make-up.

3. Make your verbs carry the action. Avoid the use of nominalizations (nouns derived from verbs or adjectives).

How would you change the following sentence?

Mrs. Allen is a minor character who doesn't receive much description or analysis by Jane Austen.

How would you change the following sentence?

Despite her lack of knowledge of General Tilney, and his cordial treatment of her, she imagines and eventually concludes that he must have murdered his wife.

How would you change the following sentence?

Her early years brought nothing of great significance, nothing that would lead anyone to believe she was headed in the directions of becoming a heroine.

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Keep in mind the following as you move from draft two to draft three:

Try changing the following sentences to eliminate passive voice and to be verbs:

- Austen's additional comment in matters concerning Catherine **could be conceived** as necessary in this point of Catherine's development, for on top of being ignorant and uninformed, Catherine **is** not prone to reflect on her own character or that of others.

- This overstatement draws an image of an overly excited, somewhat flighty, very talkative woman who does not care that her affection **may be doubted** merely because she communicates it so much.

- **It is** only with the objectivity that exists in a lot of the narration that the reader can see situations at a viewpoint from which they can accurately **be judged**.

- Catherine had noted earlier that when Isabella and James' engagement **had been prolonged**, Isabella seemed more upset by the amount of James' living than by the postponement of the marriage.