

# *The Fluency Factor*

## Objectives

- *Clear expression*
- *Engaging sentence structure*
- *Standard usage*
- *Thoughtful diction*

## Facts

- *All significant writing assignments will be categorized as test grades and will be subject to rewrite standards.*
- *While these assignments may be turned in one day late (30% deduction in grade), students will not have the opportunity to rewrite late papers and the grade given will stand.*
- *Likewise, a paper that is turned in incomplete shall be graded as it is with no opportunity for a rewrite.*

## Steps in the Rewriting Process

- *Writing assignments will be returned to the student for rewriting if one or more of the following elements are present:*
  - *An absence of a clear and relevant thesis statement*
  - *The writing does not support the thesis*
  - *An absence of topic sentences in paragraphs*
  - *Information within the paragraphs does not support the topic sentence*
  - *At least two awkward or incoherent sentences or sections (due to style or usage)*
  - *Multiple errors (spelling, punctuation, capitalization, usage)*
  - *Handwriting is illegible*

### What happens next?

- *When a writing assignment is returned, it will have:*
  1. *An attached rubric*
  2. *The date the paper was returned*
  3. *The date that the rewrite is due with the letters IR (for Initial Rewrite)*
- *Initial Rewrites will have a deadline of TEN days.*
- *When the due date falls on a weekend, the due date will automatically shift to the next school day ( even if that is not a day the student has that class).*
- *Initial Rewrites may earn up to an 80.*
- *Students must attend at least one full workshop tutorial .*
- *The tutorial will allow a teacher to go over the paper with the student, discuss problems, explain errors, and offer help in the rewrite.*
- *The student will need to at least begin the rewrite in the tutorial session.*
- *A teacher may release the student to finish the rewrite outside of the tutorial. This decision will be based on how much one-on-one help the student needs and will be at the discretion of the teacher.*
- *Upon turning in a rewritten assignment, it is possible that there may still be significant problems.*
- *In that case, students will be given the option of a Secondary Rewrite (SR).*

- *Secondary Rewrites may earn up to a 70.*
- *Secondary Rewrites will follow the same procedure as the Initial Rewrites with one exception: **They will have only THREE days between the return of the paper and the due date.***

### *General Information*

- *A student may attend a workshop with any English teacher in the department.*
- *Teachers will maintain regular workshop hours. These will be posted in each English classroom as well as on teacher web pages.*
- *Should a change in workshop hours be necessary, teachers will publicize the changes through verbal announcements, posts in the classroom, and posts on the web page.*
- *Students will keep all drafts and related pages stapled together and will turn in all drafts with each rewrite.*
- *Teachers will be mindful of eligibility checks, progress report dates, and ends of grading periods when assigning writing.*
- *It is possible that a writing assignment may be given within one grading period but not be recorded until the next grading period to allow for rewrite time. Students will be informed of these situations well in advance of the end of the grading period.*
- *For students to earn the maximum number of points in a rewrite, effort must be made to improve the quality of the writing, not just correct errors.*

*· Assignments that are not returned by the rewrite due date will keep the original grade that was given.*

*· Rewritten assignments will not be accepted late.*

*· There are guidelines in place to address unforeseen absences, and they will be followed.*

*· Planned absences, such as extra-curricular activities, will not affect the due date.*

*· A tune-up will give the student the opportunity to fix significant or pervasive problems that can be easily remedied.*

*1. It is reserved for the paper that scores below an 80 but does not warrant dropping all the way to a 20.*

*2. Students who score below a 70 are required to complete the tune-up. All others are at the students' request.*

*3. Students who do not complete the required tune-up (scores below a 70) will earn a 20.*

*4. A tune-up will follow the guidelines of a secondary rewrite.*

*5. Students may earn up to an 80 on a tune-up.*