

Revising for Audible Aesthetics Using the 6+1 Traits of Writing

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IDEAS

- Does the writing sound focused on one clear main idea throughout?
- Do you clearly hear interesting, on-topic details that support the main idea?
- Do the ideas sound authentic and sincere?
- Does the writer sound like an expert on the topic?
- Does the writing contain random ideas or too many ideas?
- Does the writing lack detail or offer any vague details?

WORD CHOICE

- Does the language of the writing sound realistic and appropriate for the author's purpose?
- Do the words create detailed pictures in the audience's mind?
- Does the writer avoid repeating words?
- Are ideas expressed with strong and precise language?
- Do the verbs lack energy? (Are passive verb overused? (is/am/are/was/were/will be/has been/had been/being/there is/there are/it is)
- Are there any misused words or words that are inappropriate / distracting for the story's voice?
- Is each idea expressed using just enough precise words and letting graphics do the rest?

ORGANIZATION

- Does the beginning of the piece grab the audience's attention? (not "blah", unclear, or random)
- Are there transitions to connect ideas and details?
- Does the writing follow a logical sequence?
- Does the pacing intentionally reflect the content? In other words, are there places where the pacing is unintentionally too fast or too slow?
- Does the ending sum up the main idea in a satisfying way? (not "blah", unclear, or random)

SENTENCE FLUENCY

- Do sentences begin in different ways?
- Do sentences vary in length and complexity?
- Have you tried to match your sentence lengths with the tone of each scene?
- Are there any awkward, choppy or rambling sentences?
- Can the audience follow the ideas between sentences?
- Does the writing have a natural flow?

VOICE

- Does the writer clearly express his or her thoughts?
- Is the writer's point of view clear?
- Does the writing connect with and engage its audience?
- Has the writer added a unique personal touch to the piece?
- Is there any part of the story that sounds flat or that lacks energy or emotion?

CONVENTIONS

- Has the writing been proofread and edited by yourself and others?
- Is each word spelled correctly?
- Have you checked for commonly mistaken homonyms?
- Are capitalization, punctuation and grammar used correctly?
- Are all verb tenses used correctly between the past and the present?

PRESENTATION

- Is the hard copy version presented in an easy-to-read and/or easy-to-hear manner?
- Is the pacing of the story in sync with the speed in which it's read?
- Does the writing support the graphics or video throughout?