

# IMPROVING THE FIRST DRAFT

PREPARATION TIME: 30'

TEACHING TIME: 1 X 60'

## ABSTRACT

This learning scenario introduces the ways of improving your writing after you've made the first version. Participants will learn about how to approach their writing as a draft, distance themselves from their writing and consider it objectively, in order to improve it. They will practice revising their introduction, checking the structure of their paragraphs and arguments, and checking if the conclusion summarizes well the main arguments and has an effective ending. Another aspect covered by this learning scenario is the concept of plagiarism, how to avoid it and check the references and use hyperlinks as especially suitable for online publishing.

## KEYWORDS

*Draft, Summary, Plagiarism, Hyperlink, Argument, Paragraph*

## ONLINE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- *Lesson on Improving the First Draft from [mediactiveyouth.net](http://mediactiveyouth.net)*
- *PowerPoint on Improving the First Draft from [mediactiveyouth.net](http://mediactiveyouth.net)*
- *A clip from the movie: [The Gods Must be Crazy](#)*
- *What is plagiarism, a YouTube video clip*

## LESSON AIM

The aim of the lesson is for participants to understand the ways of improving their writing after finishing the first version. Participants will learn about how to approach their writing as a draft, distance themselves from their writing and consider it objectively, in order to improve it.

## LESSON OUTCOME

Students will understand better the process of revising their writing and improving their first drafts. They will get familiar about revising their work, checking their introduction, main arguments and summary, avoiding plagiarism, referencing and using hyperlinks.

## LESSON IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

**Min 1-5 Warming-up:** An effective way of involving participants and setting common expectations about what they will learn is to ask a few preliminary questions on the subject. The educator introduces the topic and class contents,

prepares PowerPoint/Prezi presentation; various teaching methods: lecturing, discussion, group work, self-reflection.

**Collaborative learning** – first 30 minutes participants talk about the ways of seeing your work as a draft and how to see it impartially. By using the provided PowerPoint presentation, the educator uses several examples of works that could be improved and asks the participants to discuss its good and bad sides and think about improving it.

**30-50 Use of web resources as learning material** – educator gives one example of a draft paragraph to participants and then asks them to submit (either in person or in groups, depending of the size of the class) their revised version of it via canvas. The participants then discuss which of the sent paragraphs is the best and why.

While presenting the content make sure to interact with the trainees and encourage them for active participation.

**50-60 Conclusion:** Make a short summary of the lesson and ask a couple of questions which help underlying the most important messages you would like to give.

## MATERIALS / TOOLS

Video projector, laptop/desktop, Internet connection, Moodle / Kahoot!

PowerPoint/Prezi presentation which is enriched with visual materials (images and video clips) and research based factual information.