

How to Review Your Draft to Find Errors

| College Essay Quick Tips

now let's take a look at the most common errors that can be avoided or reconciled via a little editing magic over vocabulary zhing we know that isn't even a word but it sounds super fancy so we should probably use it right wrong unfocus yourself again we know that's not actually a word forget the thesaurus you are smart you don't also have to be a dictionary the essay that you can [buy cheap paper online](#) from some service is not a test of whether or not you've memorized the meaning of vociferous that's what the SATs are for the essay is a test of your powers of expression be honest about your level of vocabulary and avoid the common pitfall of misusing a word you haven't encountered in its proper context besides excessive the sourcing can destroy directness which we know is crucial for conveying your message in three minutes or less for sake splendiferous Nisour clarity you'll thank us in the end using inappropriate abbreviations we love abbreviations and inner speak as much as anyone seriously we do but keep them out of your final essay your essay should be conversational but not to the point of texting shorthand think email to your aunt instead of email to your BFF for life and if your BFF for life is your really cool aunt whose skateboards at age 57 and really loves the flamenco lady emoji just use another example as a reference we're not gonna beat around the bush here cliches really get our goats when you take that trip down memory lane telling us about the time you were a mover and a shaker putting your nose to the grindstone it makes our blood boil for content and grammar snobs so we find cliches to be extra unappealing but we also have enough confidence in your creativity to know that you can do better admissions officers know it too and expect you to think outside the box without using phrases like think outside the box so strike those tired sentences from your essay and do it now never put off until tomorrow what you can do today it physically hurt us to utter all of those cliches the editing process is all about diligence and attention to detail you've come all this way and we know your brain is tired and all you can think about is taking your bite to the beach and reading all seven Harry Potter's from cover to cover or devouring an Us Weekly or watching a hundred hours of Netflix you're almost there still don't send off the essay without dotting your i's and crossing your T's here are a few last things to check off the list before you hit submit take a break before reviewing your own work before you send your essay on its final journey to admissions step away when you get back try reading your essay aloud as much as you can try to see your work with fresh eyes and hear it as others would hear it get another pair of eyes on your final draft show a parent guardian aunt or uncle ask an English teacher you trust or an after-school coach who cares about you your friends are awesome people but they are not up to this task find an adult with a keen editing eye a love of the written word and an honest to put supportive feedback style listen to his or her advice adjust when necessary reject suggestions where appropriate follow your gut other opinions are helpful for added perspective but only you know how you want to be represented in the eyes of the admissions board pick your prompt remember that time he told you to forget about the prompts

we told you to lock them away in a vault and act like they never existed well just make sure you remember the combination because now is the time to revisit the list as you scan through your options chances are one or two will jump out at you is the perfect partner for your completed essay perhaps one prompt in particular will shed new light on your subject and you'll decide to make a few tweaks to fit your story to the question whichever route you choose all of your hard work pays off in this moment and you'll find that backing into a prompt is way easier than parallel parking