University of Tlemcen

Department of English

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**Level : L1**

**Module :CWE**

**Lecture 10**

**Opinion Paragraphs: Editing**

After writing the first draft of an opinion paragraph, the student can use the following checklist to edit his/ her paragraph

Put a check (x) as appropriate

* Does the topic sentence state your opinion about the topic?
* Did you include facts, explanations and opinions, and personal experience to support your opinion?
* Does the paragraph have a concluding sentence that restates your opinion?
* Did you use *there is/ there are* to introduce facts?
* Did you use *because/ because of* correctly when giving reasons?
* Did you use appropriately transitional words?
* Did you capitalize the first letter of each sentence and put end punctuation at the end?

Adapted from Savage and Shafiei (2007, p.120)

**Tutorial (TD) 10: Paragraph Editing**

**Exercise 1**: Read the following paragraph and use the above check list to see to what extent it conforms to it.

More people should ride bicycles into towns. There are seventy-three percent of workers who drive their own car to work. Car traffic in town is terrible, and parking places are hard to find. Moreover air pollution is a real problem because of car emissions. Therefore, citizens who want a cleaner, nicer place to live ought to try this non polluting form of transport. Cycling is good exercise, too! The city must not allow this problem to get worse. Instead, people should ride bicycles to work and school, and enjoy the health benefits of daily exercise.

Adapted from  Zemach and Rumisek (2005, p33)

**Exercise 2**: Edit the following paragraph using the above check list, and pay attention to mistakes.

I hate it when people do not cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze. There is thousands of people who catch colds from time to time, either because seasonal variations in temperature or because infection. Among other things, a cold cause us to cough or sneeze. People who have colds should wear masks to keep the germs from spreading, but these days it is often healthy people who wear masks, because of many sick people do not. Not wearing a mask is bad enough when you have a cold, but some people do not even cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze. Every time they coughs or sneezes, they send millions of germs all through the air and put others in danger of infection.

**Exercise 3:** Write an opinion paragraph of 12 lines on the following topic. Come up with at least three reasons to persuade the reader. Do not forget to use the above checklist after your first draft.

Which is more important, the ability to speak well or write well?

**References**

Savage, A. and Shafiei, M (2007) *Effective academic writing 1*, OUP: Oxford.

<https://windofspring.weebly.com/uploads/1/8/2/1/18216447/effective_academic_writing_1-part_one.pdf>

**Zemach**, D.E. and **Rumisek**, L.A. (**2005)** . Academic Writing from Paragraph to Essay. Oxford: Macmillan.