

Craft Capstone: The Revision

Take one real piece you've written for your fight and run it through all eight Craft instruments, from competent to sharp.

Pick Your Piece

The piece

Name the real piece you've already written for your fight — a public comment, an op-ed, a key email, a speech — that you'll revise below.

The Eight-Pass Revision

1. Mechanisms

Is a story doing transportation, identification, emotion, coherence? Name the weakest and strengthen it.

2. Sentence

Find your three flattest sentences and make them alive.

3. The Turn

Is there a clear pivot the story builds toward and flows from?

4. Meaning

Is there one controlling image or symbol, used with restraint?

5. Counterargument

Is the hardest objection answered, in the matching mode?

6. Preemption

Is your biggest weakness raised by you first, before the opponent can?

7. Fallacy audit

Is your reasoning clean — no straw man, false either/or, or unsupported slope?

8. Frame

Is the piece fighting inside your frame, or the opponent's?

Before and After

Before

Paste the original piece, or note where you're keeping it for reference.

After

Paste the fully revised piece.

What changed most, and why

Three sentences on which pass did the most work and why.

Sufficient, not maximum, craft

I found the two or three genuine weaknesses rather than over-engineering every pass

The revision made the piece truer and clearer, not just bigger

I can still use this piece for real