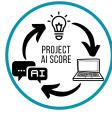




Revising with the CDO Writing Strategy

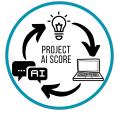
Compare, Diagnose, Operate





What is the purpose of revising?

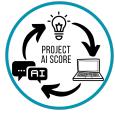
- Evaluate your own writing, focusing on clarity, coherence, structure, and audience alignment
- Gain metacognitive awareness by articulating intended meaning versus expressed text
- Empower self-regulation during revision through structured decision-making



What is CDO?

CDO Stands For: **Compare**, Diagnose, Operate

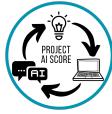
- **Compare**: Students read their writing sentence by sentence, comparing what they intended to express with the actual text



What is CDO? (Part 2)

Compare, **Diagnose**, Operate

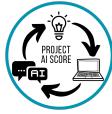
- **Diagnose:** They pinpoint issues, such as unclear meaning, awkward phrasing, mis-sequencing, weak development, or drift from the main idea. They are guided by evaluation cards for clarity, audience, and purpose



What is CDO? (Part 3)

Compare, Diagnose, **Operate**

- **Operate:** Students choose and apply revision tactics (e.g., adding detail, deleting extraneous content, rewording, or reorganizing text) to edit and improve their writing



Steps for CDO Strategy (Part 1)

Step	Action	Guiding Question
1. Compare	Read one sentence. Think: "Is this what I meant to say?"	Does this match my idea?
2. Diagnose	Identify issues: ambiguity, missing context, shaky structure, drift from main idea	What doesn't sound clear or effective?



Steps for CDO Strategy (Part 2)

Step	Action	Guiding Question
3. Operate-Identify Tactic	Choose a revision method: add, delete, rewrite, or reorder text	What can I do to fix it?
4. Operate-Revise	Apply the chosen tactic. Re-read to confirm improved alignment	Does this now convey my intention clearly?  WRITE



CDO Revising Writing Strategy

C

Compare

Ask: "Is this what I meant to say?"

- Read your sentence slowly.
- Think about what you were trying to say.
- Does the sentence match your original idea?

D

Diagnose

Ask: "What's wrong with this sentence?"

You can use your:

- Evaluation cards,
- Checklist, or
- Graphic organizer

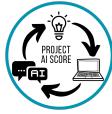
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Operate

Ask: "How can I fix it?"

Choose a revision strategy:

- Add details or description
- Delete unnecessary or off-topic words
- Rework to be clearer
- Rearrange the order of words or ideas
- Combine sentences
- Break up a run-on
- Add a transition or linking word
- Change the tone or voice



CDO Evaluation Cards

Step 2: Diagnose

“This is not what I intended to say.”

“This is good!”

“This is not useful to my paper.”

“This doesn’t sound right.”



CDO Evaluation Cards (Cont.)

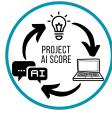
Step 2: Diagnose

“The reader may not understand this.”

“The reader won’t believe this.”

“The reader won’t be interested in this.”

“The reader will understand and believe this.”



Step 3: Operate | How to fix sentences

1. Add Descriptive Detail

Enhance your writing by including adjectives, adverbs, sensory language, or specific examples

Example: "The dog barked." → "The scruffy brown dog barked loudly at the passing mail truck."

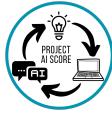


Step 3: Operate | How to fix sentences

2. Delete Redundant or Off-Topic Words

Remove unnecessary words that clutter or detract from the main idea

Example: "I actually really, really enjoyed the awesome, fun game." → "I enjoyed the game."

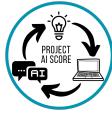


Step 3: Operate | How to fix sentences

3. Reword for Clarity or Precision

Replace vague or confusing language with more specific or appropriate vocabulary

Example: "She did stuff at the event." → "She organized the community booths at the event."

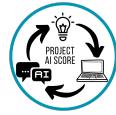


Step 3: Operate | How to fix sentences

4. Rearrange Sentence Structure

Change the order of words or phrases to improve flow, coherence, or emphasis

Example: "In the forest, a bear I saw." → "I saw a bear in the forest."



Step 3: Operate | How to fix sentences

5. Combine Sentences

Merge short, choppy sentences into one sentence to improve fluency and reduce repetition.

Example: "I went to the store. I bought apples." → "I went to the store and bought apples."



Step 3: Operate | How to fix sentences

6. Break Up a Run-On Sentence

Divide a long, confusing sentence into two or more clear, complete sentences

Example: "We ran all the way to the park it was really far and I got tired." → "We ran all the way to the park. It was really far, and I got tired."



Step 3: Operate | How to fix sentences

7. Add a Transition or Linking Phrase

Improve coherence between ideas by inserting a word or phrase that signals relationships

Example: "I didn't study. I passed the test." →
"Even though I didn't study, I passed the test."

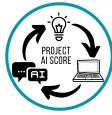


Step 3: Operate | How to fix sentences

8. Change the Tone or Voice

Modify the language to better suit the audience or purpose (e.g., more formal, more engaging)

Example: "Whatever, I just did it." → "Despite my hesitation, I completed the task."

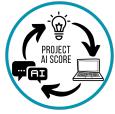


Now You Try!

Class Practice Prompts | See Handout

1. Prompt: A Moment I'll Never Forget

- Think about a moment in your life that stands out, whether it was joyful, embarrassing, exciting, or scary. Describe what happened. Who was there? why did it stick with you?
 - *Great for: Revising emotional tone, adding descriptive details, clarifying events*



Now You Try!

Class Practice Prompts | See Handout

2. Prompt: If I Were in Charge of the School for a Day

- What would you change, and why? Describe your schedule, rules, and activities.
 - *Great for: Rewording vague ideas, organizing sequences, and strengthening voice.*



Now You Try! (Part 3)

Class Practice Prompts | See Handout

3. Prompt: The Day Everything Went Wrong

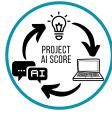
- Write a true or fictional story about a day when nothing seemed to go as planned. How did you respond?
 - *Great for: Adding transitions, combining sentences, and using sensory language.*



Graphic Organizers to Support the Revision Process

CDO Writing Strategy Graphic Organizer Compare, Diagnose, Operate

Original Sentence	Evaluation Card (Diagnose)	Chosen Tactic	Revised Sentence



Graphic Organizers to Support the Revision Process

CDO Writing Strategy Checklist Document

Compare

I read my sentence and matched it to my thinking.

Diagnose

I selected a card reflecting the core issue.

Operate

I chose an action (rewrite/add/delete/change).

I revised the sentence.

I reread to confirm clarity & alignment.



Graphic Organizers to Support the Revision Process

CDO Writing Strategy Peer Review Form

Pair up with a partner and work through this graphic organizer.

Partner A: _____

Partner B: _____

Step	Directions	Complete
1. Read aloud	Partner A reads their sentence.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Compare aloud	What did you intend?	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Diagnose together	Partner B selects an Evaluation Card.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Discuss tactic	Choose from rewrite/add/delete/change.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Revise	Partner A makes the change	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Confirm	Return to the checklist and ensure alignment.	<input type="checkbox"/>