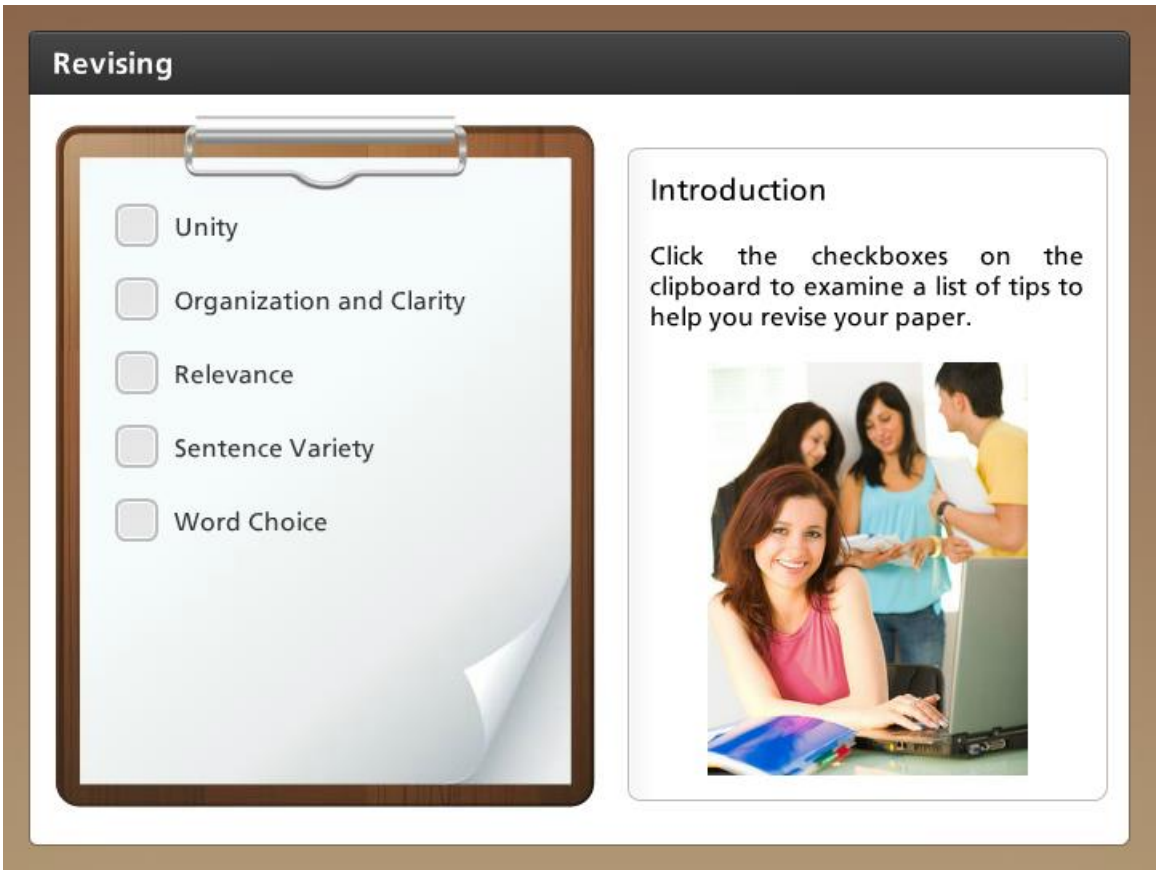
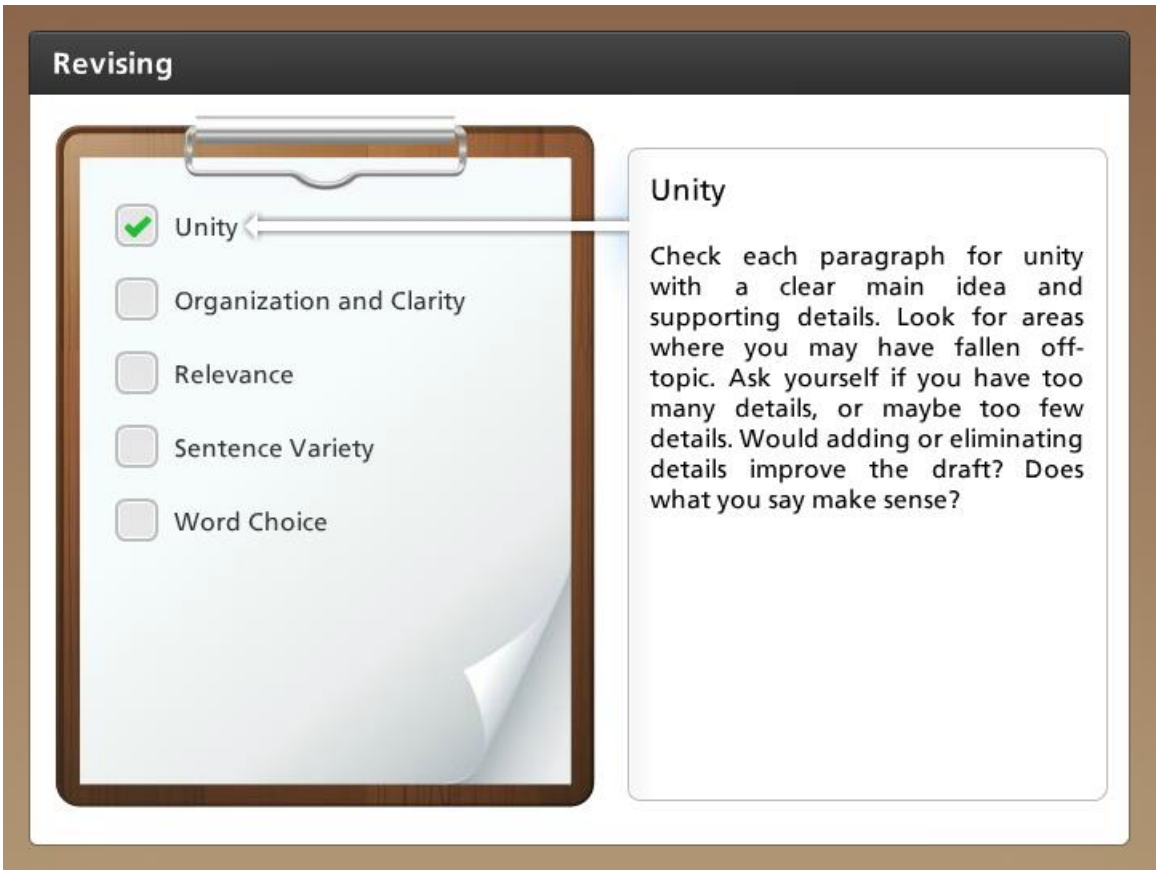
Module 6: Examining the World to Discover Truth
Topic 4 Content: Revising

Introduction



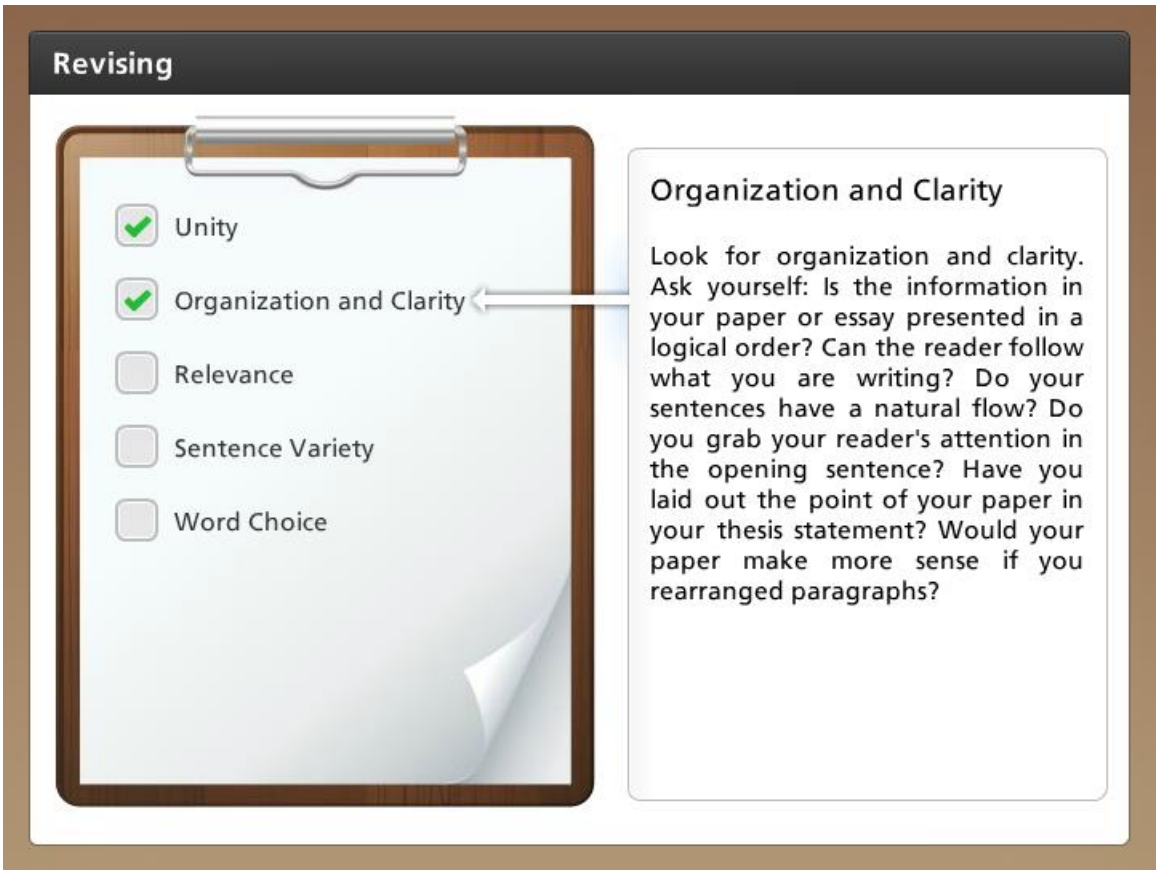
Click the checkboxes on the clipboard to examine a list of tips to help you revise your paper.

Unity



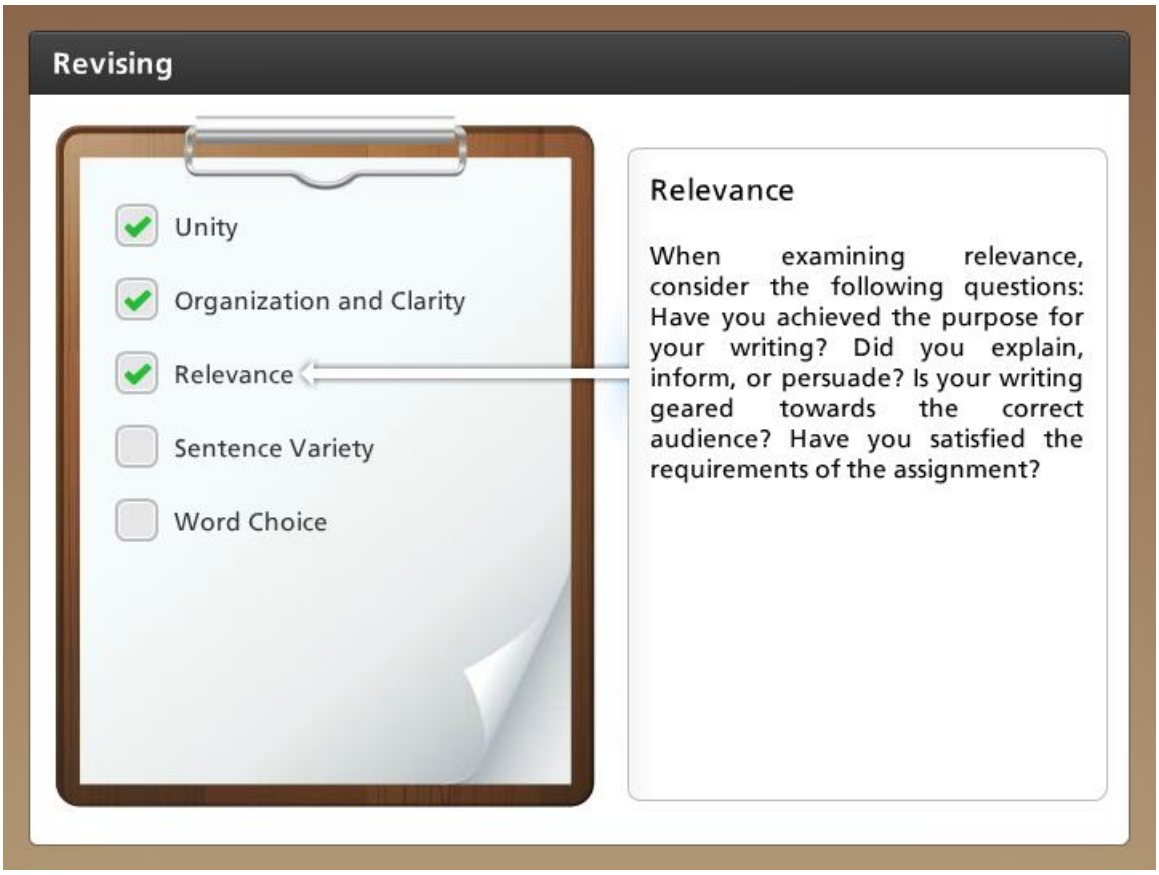
Check each paragraph for unity with a clear main idea and supporting details. Look for areas where you may have fallen off-topic. Ask yourself if you have too many details, or maybe too few details. Would adding or eliminating details improve the draft? Does what you say make sense?

Organization and Clarity



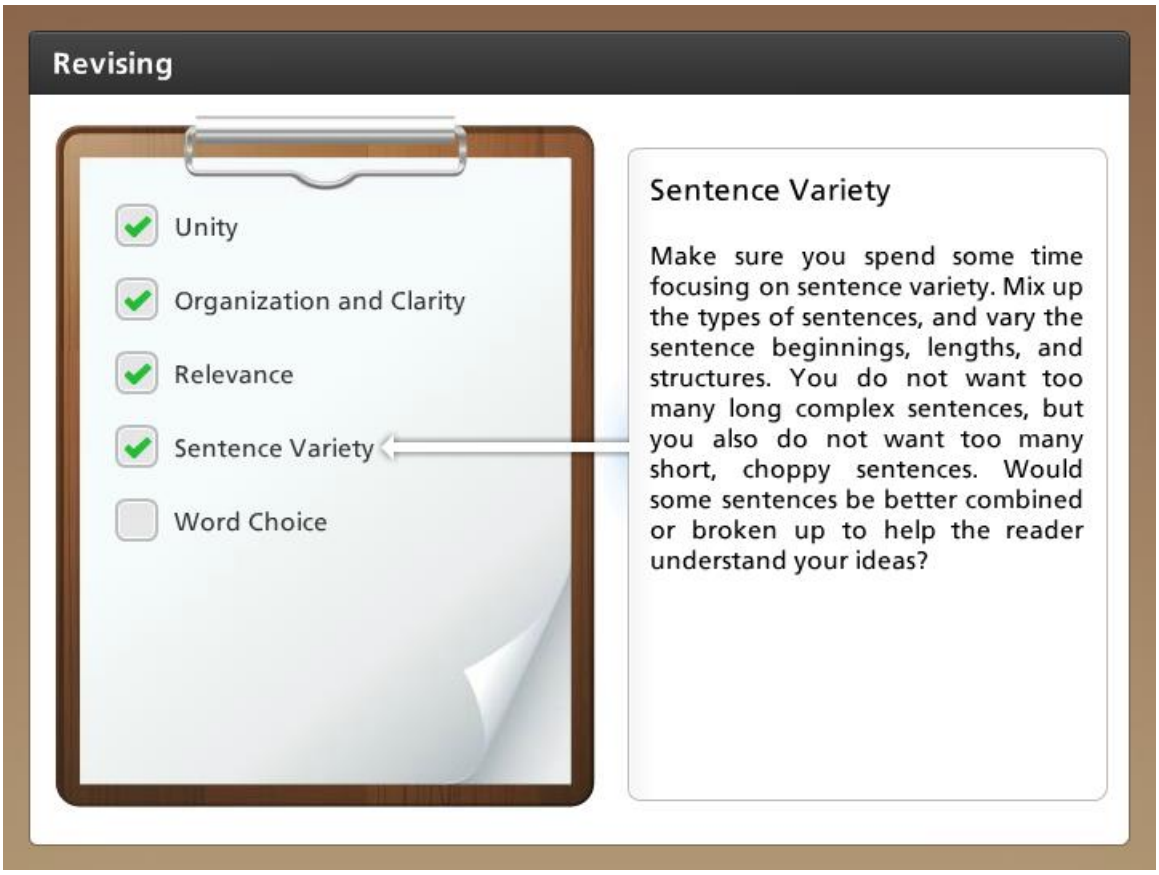
Look for organization and clarity. Ask yourself: Is the information in your paper or essay presented in a logical order? Can the reader follow what you are writing? Do your sentences have a natural flow? Do you grab your reader's attention in the opening sentence? Have you laid out the point of your paper in your thesis statement? Would your paper make more sense if you rearranged paragraphs?

Relevance



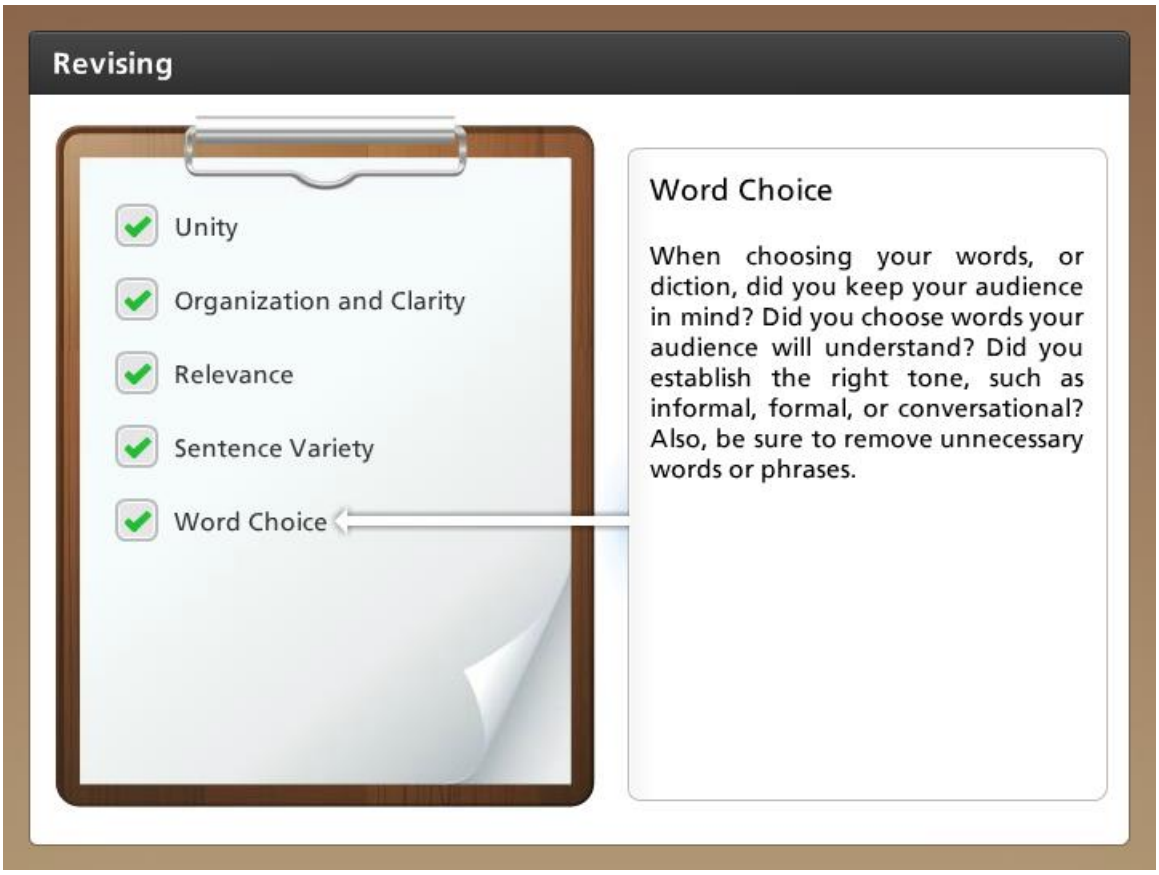
When examining relevance, consider the following questions: Have you achieved the purpose for your writing? Did you explain, inform, or persuade? Is your writing geared towards the correct audience? Have you satisfied the requirements of the assignment?

Sentence Variety



Make sure you spend some time focusing on sentence variety. Mix up the types of sentences, and vary the sentence beginnings, lengths, and structures. You do not want too many long complex sentences, but you also do not want too many short, choppy sentences. Would some sentences be better combined or broken up to help the reader understand your ideas?

Word Choice



When choosing your words, or diction, did you keep your audience in mind? Did you choose words your audience will understand? Did you establish the right tone, such as informal, formal, or conversational? Also, be sure to remove unnecessary words or phrases.