

# Develop ideas in a first draft

Provide explicit instruction.

Teach writers to ask themselves questions & to look for ways to provide the reader more information.

## Explanation

- Can you summarize or restate an important idea/point in another way?
- Where could you add a *because* explanation?
- Could you write more sentences to explain a reason or point?
- What is the purpose or function of something/someone?
- Where could you insert some interesting facts/details?
- What else can you say about the situation/problem/dilemma?
- Can you add a sentence that restates an idea more concisely/succinctly?

## Proof

- Do you have more examples, facts, or evidence you could add?
- What numbers or statistics (e.g., dates, years, quantities, percentages, etc.) can you include?
- Do you have a real-life story or scenario that supports your thinking?
- Could you describe a pretend or hypothetical situation to support your thinking?

## Description

- What type is it? How would you group or classify it?
- What does it smell like, taste like, sound like, feel like?
- What does it look like?
- Can you describe the color/shade of color?
- What is its shape? (Is it symmetrical?)
- How big is it? What size is it?
- What's it made of (e.g., composition, consistency, medium)?
- How does it move?

## Voices

- Do you have any expert quotes you could include?
- What are other perspectives or opinions on this topic?
- Are there feelings or emotions associated with this topic?
- Where could you include a personal connection, aha, or synthesis?
- Does it make sense to speak to the reader directly (e.g., *you*)?
- Is it possible to write from a creative & unique point of view?

## Vocabulary

- Did you add topic-specific/domain-specific terms?
- Where could you insert an expert definition or literal translation?
- Can you further explain a term by giving a synonym?
- Can you change any general/common nouns to more specific nouns?
- Can you add any names (e.g., people, places, things)?
- What weak verbs could you change to more precise action verbs?
- Are there any sound-effect words (onomatopoeia) that fit this topic?

## Importance

- What's your point?
- Why are the ideas/thoughts important?
- What is the purpose of the information?
- What difference does this information make?
- What is the consequence/impact/effect of this situation/topic?
- How did it end up? What else can you say about the solution/outcome?