



Novelist's Boot Camp

Take Command of Your Novel!



Battle Plan Echo

From **Revision and Rewriting**

**PERFORM REAL-
WORLD REVISION**

**Novelist's Boot Camp
Drills: 85-92**

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Real-world Revision

Revision:

- Begins after you have a completed draft
- Is one of the most powerful tools in writing
- Is one of the most misunderstood
- Is a place where novelists are very likely to flail
- Is where you need a plan

Novelist's Boot Camp
Drills: 84-95



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Revising using "Passes"

A **methodical** process for you to evaluate your scenes for critical elements

Each Pass focuses on **one** and **only one** element

Conduct the pass **from 1st scene to last**, then make the next pass the same way

Mark changes **now**, **make** them **later**



By the numbers

1. Save and back up the draft
2. Make a working copy
3. Print it
4. Make a pass and mark areas for improvement
5. Repeat until all passes complete
6. Assess
7. Rewrite

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NBC's 7 Revision Passes

1. Make a **Character** Pass
2. Make an **Objective** Pass
3. Make a **Dialogue** Pass
4. Make a **Description** and **Narration** Pass
5. Make an **Action** Pass
6. Make a **Logic** Pass
7. Circle Back for a **Miscellaneous** Pass



Character pass

- Character present?
- Character pursuing her objectives?
Character acting out her personality points?
- POV consistent?

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Objective pass

- Are characters pursuing their objectives?
- Are objectives in conflict?
- Are objectives visible?
- Can you make objectives more important?

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Dialogue pass

- Are characters using words as weapons or tools?
- Does dialogue reflect the character's personality points?
- Is the dialogue real or does it feel real?

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Drills: 63-71**

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BONUS BONUS BONUS

Dialogue “secrets”

Dialog is **not** real speech, it is faked speech that **feels** real

The #1 purpose of dialogue is for characters to use words as weapons or tools to get what they want

Dialogue comes from character



Description and Narration pass

How well does the description directly impact on the characters?

“The rain fell hard.”

“The rain spat in Lindsey’s face.”

Are all the senses used?



Exercise!



Action pass

- Are characters taking action?
- Is action genre appropriate?
- Is there something we can see on every page?
- Is the action in pursuit of objectives?

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Logic pass

- Is there a cause and effect relationship between the action in every scene?
- Does the logic work for the characters?
- Is the first bang big enough?

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Miscellaneous pass

- Technical detail
- Historical detail
- Genre markers
- Expectations
- Other notes

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By way of review

Revision is great opportunity, often wasted
Real World Revision --7 Revision Passes

Character Pass

Objective Pass

Dialogue Pass

Description and **Narration** Pass

Action Pass

Logic Pass

Miscellaneous Pass



What are your questions?

????

I DIDN'T
HEAR YOU!!

RANGER

