Editing and Revising 101

DIRECTIONS: EDIT AND REVISE THE PASSAGE BELOW. PLACE YOUR CORRECTIONS IN THE SPACE ABOVE EACH LINE. USE THE CHECKLIST TO ENSURE THAT YOU FIND ALL OF THE ERRORS.

Romeo and Juliet: Tragedy or Comedy

The drama Romeo and Juliet was written by William Shakespeare in the middle of his career. Though the play is often considered a tragedy in modern society Shakespeares audience may have found the play to be more of a commedy. Aristotle said that a tragedy should provoke pity and fear, should include an inevitable death, must contain noble characters, and should include a character with a tragic flaw. In modern society, many would thinks that there romantic attraction led to an inevitable death but in Shakespeare’s time, many marriages were arranged. Committing suicide over romantic interests would be far from inevitable. Also, Shakespeare was not the original author of the story of Romeo and Juliet therefore their death would have been much less shocking and the audience may have concentrated more on their comic life. So, in the words of Jake Wise a student at Linton Middle School “Shakespeares not so bad. Its kind of funny”.

Checklist for Editing and Revision

Active Voice should be primarily used in writing.

Underline or use italics for titles of books, films, plays, magazines, and newspapers.

Use commas to set off nonrestrictive clauses, appositives, and other phrases.

Use apostrophes to show possession.

Edit for spelling, including commonly confused words.

Use appropriate word choice to achieve vivid descriptions and clarity.

Use parallel structure within lists and phrases.

Use correct subject-verb agreement with indefinite pronouns.

Edit for spelling, including commonly confused words.

Complete sentences without run-ons, fragments, or comma splices.

Use commas before conjunctions in compound sentences.

Use semicolons before conjunctive adverbs.

Use commas to set off appositive phrases.

Use apostrophes to create contractions and show that letters have been left out.

Use quotations with end punctuation appropriately.