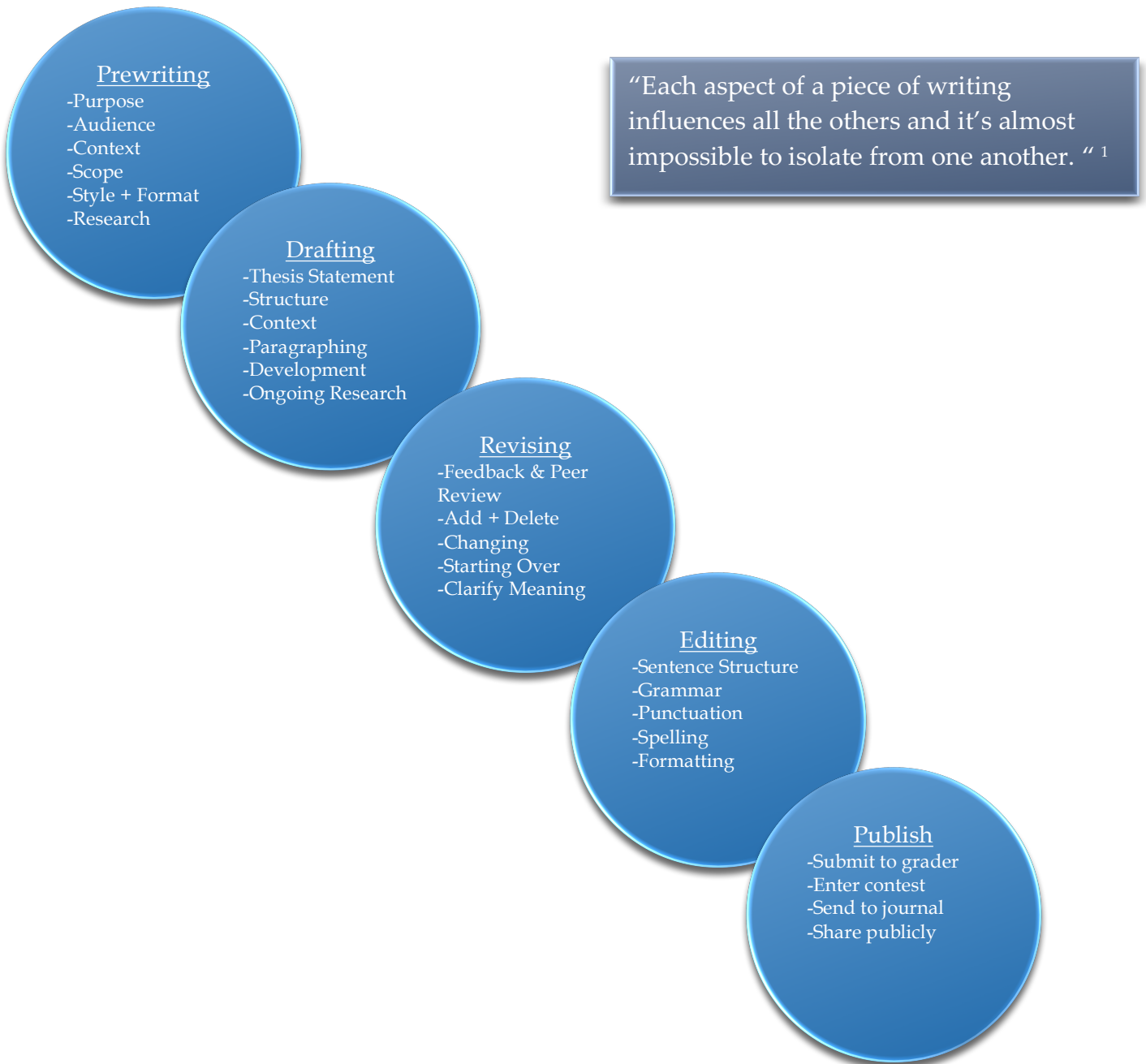


The Writing Process



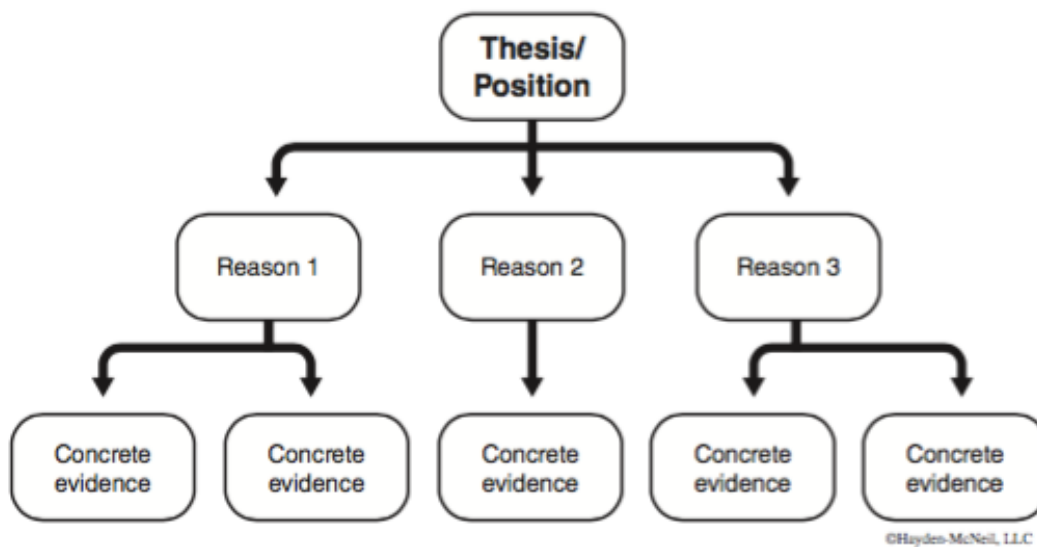
1. Hedengren, Beth Finch. 2004. *A TA's Guide to Teaching Writing in All Disciplines*. Boston: Bedford St. Martin's. (p. 20-21, 109)
2. Johnson, William A. 2010. *The Sociology Student Writer's Manual*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall.
3. Weller, Sherrie, ed. 2016. *UCWR 110: Writing Responsibly*. 4th ed. Chicago, IL: Loyola University Chicago.

Outlining

The purpose of outlining is to organize your thoughts and research so you can write more effectively. The act of outlining forces you to grasp a better understanding of your ideas by arranging them in relation to one another.² Here are some rules for outlining:

- You are outlining for yourself and the reader – thus, the way you outline for yourself is largely up to you, but keep in mind the reader of your paper will see a formal outline
 - Informal outlines are excellent tools for writers
 - Formal outlines are great blueprints for readers
- Ideas of equal weight are placed on the same level within the outline
 - What's most important to your argument?

Informal Example: Tree Diagram for Forming Arguments³



Formal Outline Example:²

Thesis (prefaces outline)

- I. First main idea
 - a. First subordinate idea
 - i. Reason, example, or illustration
 - ii. Reason, example, or illustration
 - Detail to support reason
 - Detail to support reason
 - b. Second subordinate idea
- II. Second main idea

Note: each level must have more than one entry. For every A, there must be at least a B. This forces you to compare ideas and place them on a scale of relativity (value & importance).

1. Hedengren, Beth Finch. 2004. *A TA's Guide to Teaching Writing in All Disciplines*. Boston: Bedford St. Martin's. (p. 20-21, 109)
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