lilyPD
Grab-N-Go

Organization Strategy: Cut it Up

Task: Cut apart your draft to physically find the best order for your ideas.

Instructions:

1. Print out your draft. (If you have been writing on paper by hand, make a photocopy of your draft.)
2. Cut each paragraph.
3. Mix up all the paragraph pieces you have and put them in a new order.
4. Read your essay from beginning to end – what works? What doesn't make sense in its current position? What needs to be moved?
5. Make adjustments and try again – moving the pieces that need moving and reading from beginning to end.
6. Continue this process until you land on the best possible order for your paragraphs. (Note: This might be your original order! If it is, you can feel really confident about it now because you have considered many other options! If you've discovered a new, better order through this activity, great!)

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