

User Guide: ArgRewrite Writing Assistant Tool

<http://argrewrite.cs.pitt.edu/tool.html>

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1 Introduction

ArgRewrite is a tool to help you revise your college papers by showing you where and what kinds of revisions you are making. The goal of ArgRewrite is to help you write better papers.

ArgRewrite takes two drafts of your essay, original and revised, then automatically looks at differences at the sentence level. ArgRewrite automatically categorizes revisions as either CONTENT or SURFACE revisions.

SURFACE revisions are changes to **Clarity or Word choice**, **Convention or Grammar**, and **Organization**. CONTENT revisions are changes to your **Thesis or Ideas**, **Reasonings**, **Evidences**, **Counter-arguments**, **Specificity**, and **Other Contents**. If you are only making surface revisions, you probably won't be improving your paper much. Strong writers aim to make the majority of their revisions to content, not just surface issues.

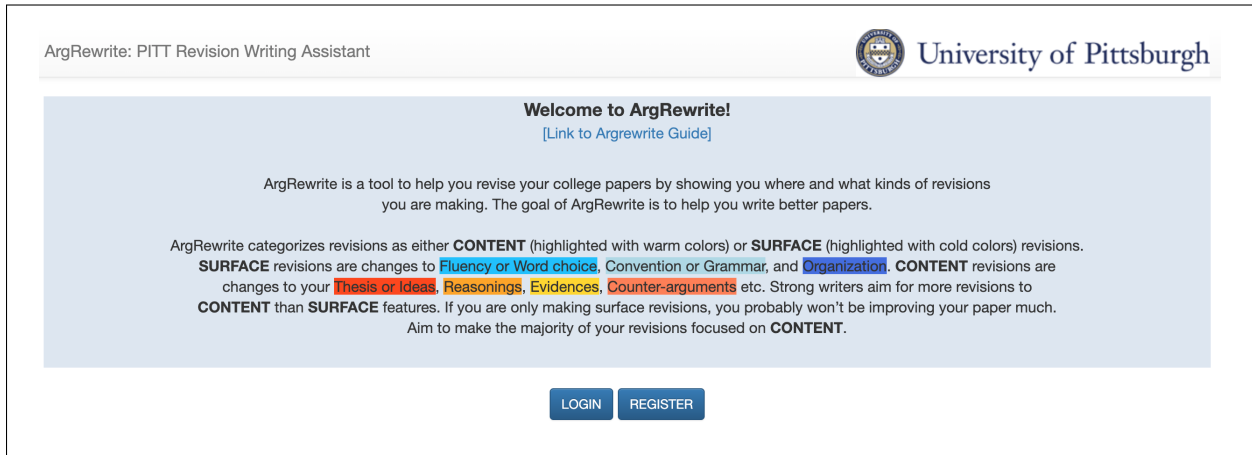


Figure 1: ArgRewrite Interface.

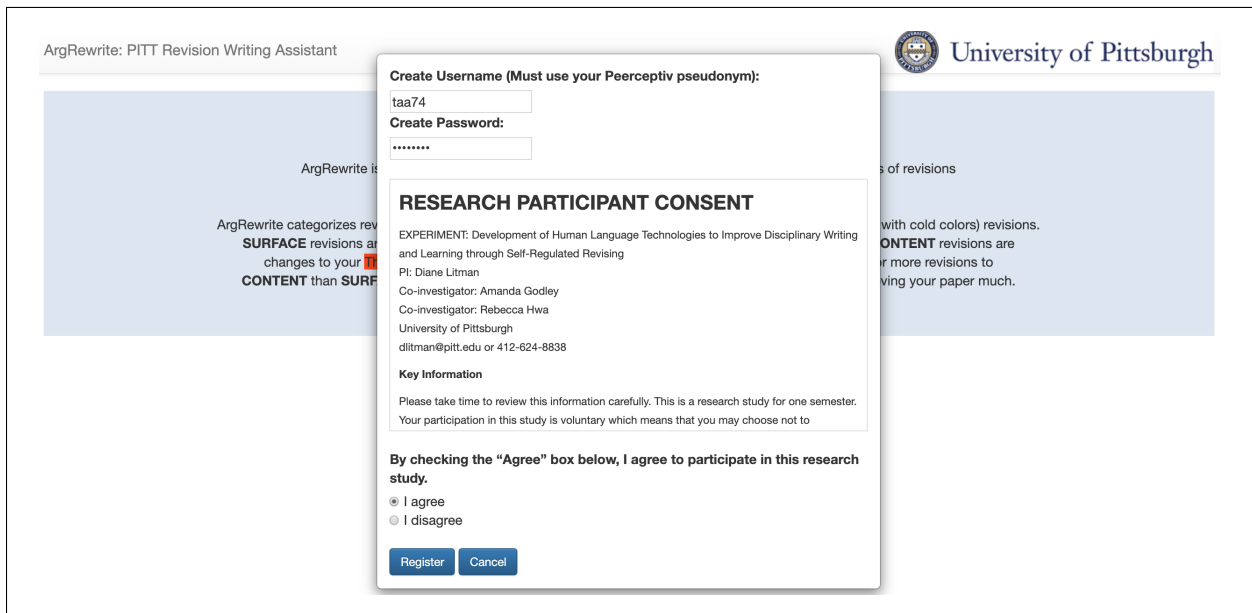


Figure 2: Registration process on ArgRewrite.

2 Registration

Go to (<http://argrewrite.cs.pitt.edu/tool.html>) and enter your information to register. You will need to use the same username and password each time you login.

3 Upload Drafts

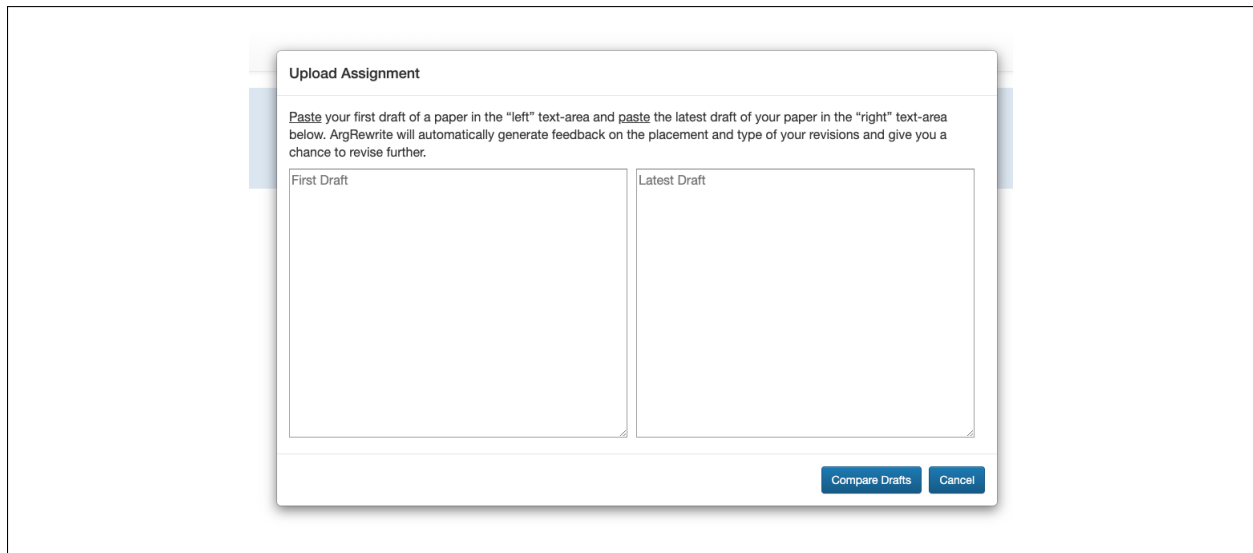


Figure 3: Upload essay drafts to ArgRewrite.

Once you login to ArgRewrite, you will see a window to select the assignment you want to work on. After you select the assignment, you will be greeted with a window to upload your essay drafts. Here, paste your first draft of the essay in the ‘First Draft’ text area, and paste your revised draft of the essay to the ‘Latest Draft’ text area. Then, to see feedback on your revisions, click on the ‘Compare Drafts’ button.

4 Overview of Your Revision

4.1 Revision Distribution

On the left of the screen, you will see a distribution of the kinds of revisions you did in the form of a pie chart. The pie chart shows the percentage of each kind of revisions. The legends below the chart shows exactly how many changes (in number of sentences) you have made of a particular revision type.

4.2 Revision Map

The Revision Map shows the map of changes you have made to your essay. The left column is your previous draft and the right column is your current draft. Each tile represents a

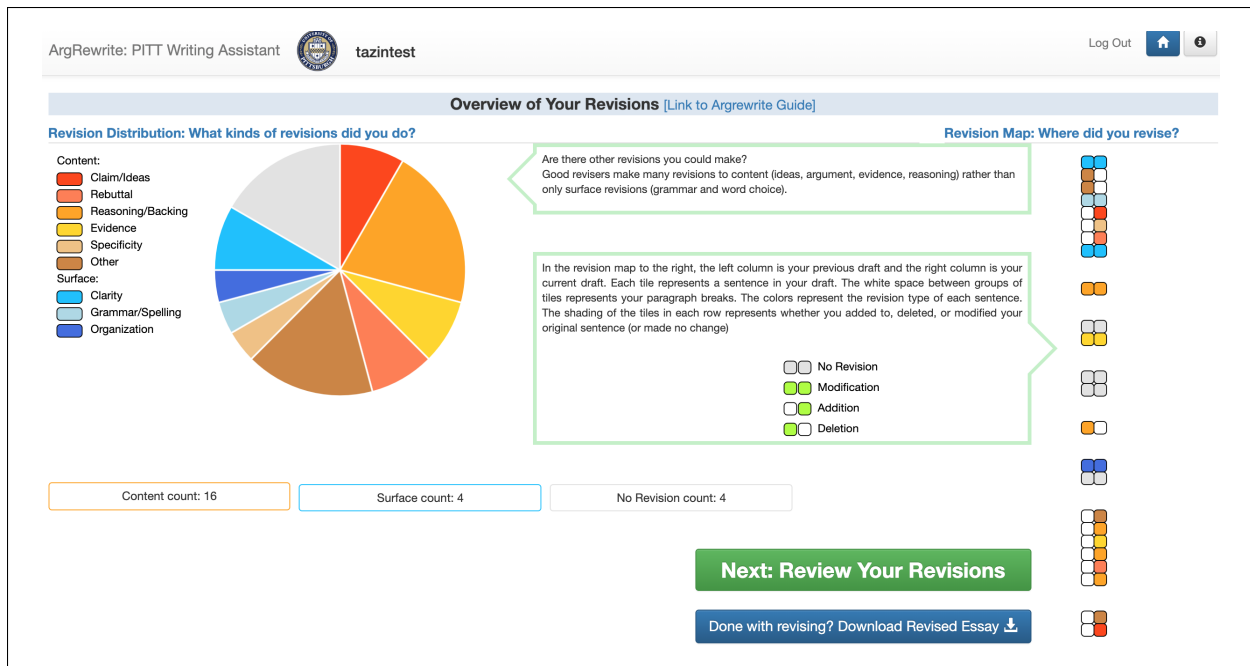


Figure 4: Overview of Your Revisions Screen.

sentence in your draft. The breaks between groups of tiles represent your paragraph breaks. If there were no revisions made to that sentence, the tiles are grey in color. If a surface revision was made, the tiles are blue shades of word, grammar, or organization. If a content revision was made, the tiles are of orange shades. If you added a sentence, the tile on the left (previous draft) is white and the tile on the right (latest draft) is colored to indicate that you added a sentence. For deletion of a sentence, these colors are reversed (color on left, white on right).

Next, you can click on the button ‘Review Your Revisions’ to see more detail about your revisions.

5 Review Your Revision

The ‘Review Your Revisions’ screen shows each revised sentence of your essay highlighted as different kinds of revisions. You can click on any sentence in the ‘Latest Draft’ tab, or any tile on the revision map to see at the top of the page a comparison between your previous draft and the current draft sentences. This page gives you a more detailed look at your revisions and sentences you may want to revise more. To further revise your essay, click on the “Lets Revise” button at the bottom of the screen.

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Review Your Revisions [\[Link to Argrewrite Guide\]](#)

Click on any sentence below or in the revision map to the right to see a comparison between your previous draft and latest draft.

Selected Sentence in Previous Draft:
~~However, without more conversation about the education that drivers would need to have to successfully operate self-driving cars, driver-less cars will not be as beneficial as some might think.~~

Selected Sentence in Latest Draft:
 Without more conversation about the education that drivers would need to have to successfully operate self-driving cars and more research into privacy and safety, driver-less cars will not be as beneficial as some might think.

Latest Draft Word Count: 697

Revision Map

Keys:

- No Revision
- Modification
- Addition
- Deletion

Content:

- Claim/Ideas
- Rebuttal
- Reasoning
- Evidence
- Specificity
- Other

Surface:

- Clarity
- Grammar
- Organization

Next: Let's Revise!

Satisfied with revising? [Download Revised Essay](#)

Figure 5: Review Your Revisions Screen.




6 Revise Your Essay

On this page, you can revise your essay in the text box under the ‘Revise Latest Draft’ tab. You also have the option to look at your previous revisions in the ‘Latest Draft’ tab. After you are done with these revisions, click “Upload and Recheck Revisions” to recheck your latest revisions. The system will automatically compare your latest revision with the immediate previous draft and take you to the “Overview of Revisions” screen (Figure 4) so you can see your latest revisions. This completes one revision cycle. You can revise and review your revisions as many times as youd like.

When you are satisfied with your revisions, click the ‘Download Revised Text’ button to download your essay as a .txt file.

7 Understanding the ArgRewrite system



Your revisions are labeled by an AI (artificial intelligent) system. If you don’t agree with the system that for example your revision is “Reasoning” or “word”, it is possible that the system made a mistake. However, it is also possible that your revision did not successfully achieve your desired goal. In places where you disagree with the indicated revision type, think about how to revise the sentence to better achieve your intended revision.

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Revise Your Essay [\[Link to Argrewrite Guide\]](#)

Click on any sentence on the 'Latest Draft' tab or in the revision map to the right to see a comparison between your previous draft and latest draft.

Selected Sentence in Previous Draft: _____
 Selected Sentence in Latest Draft: _____

Latest Draft  [Revise Latest Draft](#)  Word Count: 697

As with any new invention, there is both major benefits that make the research and development worthwhile and equally major concerns that come from unknown consequences. With companies such as Google investing substantial sums of money into the research and development of self-driving cars, it's apparent that enough people see the benefits eventually outweighing the cost. The potential benefits mentioned in the article are significant: reduction of distracted driving, more time for other activities while in the car, and travel efficiency. However, all of those stated benefits assume that the car would be in control 100% of the time, which is not realistic. Operators need to be aware and prepared to take control in the event of an emergency. Without more conversation about the education that drivers would need to have to successfully operate self-driving cars and more research into privacy and safety, driver-less cars will not be as beneficial as some might think.


Though an article in Auto Insurance Center, "Top 20 Pros and Cons Associated with Self-Driving Cars," lists not needing to get a specialized driving license as an advantage of self-driving cars, that license should really still be necessary. As discussed in the "cons" section, other sources including Teletrac note that drivers would still have to be trained in how to properly operate the vehicle. Further, if a potential benefit is, as mentioned in the article, that people who can't normally operate cars, such as those who are disabled, elderly, or intoxicated, the fact remains that even if trained on how to properly operate a self-driving car, these individuals may not have the physical or mental capacity to manually drive the vehicle in the event that a sensor or other technological failure requires immediate human intervention. The article also makes the point that over-relying on the technology could mean that drivers would no longer have the skills to over-ride the system and manually control the vehicle in the event of a failure. Thus, self-driving cars actually require more education: both standard self-driving car operating procedures as well as regular driving training.

Increased education may be a mediator of the potential advantages and dangers, but ultimately self-driving cars is a misleading name, as an operator would always have to step in should a system fail or an unexpected road condition. Therefore, all stated benefits have their limits, since drivers will need to be paying enough attention to take over in an instant in an emergency situation.

However, even if operators were given even more education and able to enjoy the benefits to some degree, there remains safety and privacy concerns. The article mentions a potential problem noted by many sources, including the Guardian: hacking. In 2016, seemingly harmless internet connected devices such as refrigerators and baby monitors were used to bring down major websites such as Twitter and Amazon. If that large scale of an attack can happen with simple devices, there is obvious reason for concern about having a car connected to the Internet in a similar way. In addition to personal safety concerns, the car would have a plethora of personal data on where the operators go and when. The article supports this by saying that people are "concerned about the opportunity for a computer build into the self-driving car to collect personal data."

Self-driving cars have many benefits, but alert, educated operators would still have to be ready to take over in an emergency. With the addition of personal safety and privacy concerns, it's clear that the technology to protect citizens has not caught up with the technology of the self-driving cars.

Revision Map



Keys:

- No Revision
- Modification
- Addition
- Deletion

Content:

- Claim/Ideas
- Rebuttal
- Reasoning
- Evidence
- Specificity
- Other

Surface:

- Clarity
- Grammar
- Organization

[Upload and Re-check Revision](#)

Figure 6: Revise Your Essay Screen.

8 Example

Original Draft	Revised Draft	Operation	Purpose
Self-driving vehicles pose many advantages and disadvantages.	While self-driving vehicles pose many advantages and disadvantages, I am not on the bandwagon for them at this time.	Modify	Claim
An example for the case where the electronic communication is limited would be China.	An example for the case where the electronic communication is limited would be North Korea.	Modify	Evidence
Self-driving car is the game changer.	Self-driving car is the game changer because it has multiple sensors, and it is more accurate, reliable, and focused than a human driver.	Modify	Reasoning
	The passengers in car with an omnipotent driver will not need to worry about emergency situations.	Add	Other Content
On the other hand, this behavior wasn't just an idle pursuit of the rich after all.		Delete	Rebuttal
An example for the case where the electronic communication is limited would be China.	An example for the case where the electronic communication is limited would be mainland China.	Delete	Precision
My distrust stems from an experience I remember from my younger life.	My distrust stems from an experience I remember from my youth.	Modify	Clarity
The Facebook "like" has become universal. It is now a psychological micro-credit.	The Facebook "like" has become a universal, psychological micro-credit.	Modify	Organization
This was recognized as being rather antisocial.	This was recognized as being somewhat antisocial.	Modify	Clarity
Self-driving cars might nt be the answer.	Self-driving cars might not be the answer.	Modify	Grammar/Spelling

Table 1: Example revision types.