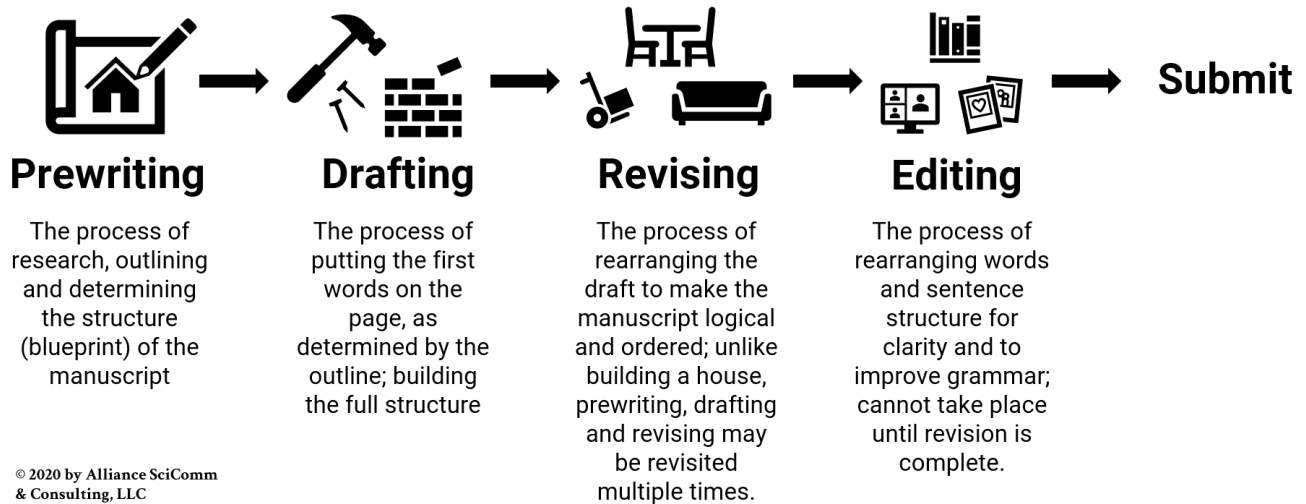


# Incorporating Feedback to Improve Your Writing

## Brief Overview of the Writing Process



## General Revision and Editing Tips

- **Find a self-revision process that works for you.**
  - ARRR – Add; Rearrange; Remove; Replace
  - Cut & Paste – Yes, cut up a section (e.g., introduction) into sentences with scissors, then rearrange them as needed.
  - Reverse outlining – Make an outline of your current draft, does it make sense?
- **Ask for written feedback** to help prevent misremembering and misunderstanding and so you can refer to it as needed.
- **Read it and walk away.** Even constructive feedback on a creation can be painful. After receiving feedback, leave it for a week. Time and space will enable you to process that pain and return with a fresh mind to improve your creation.
- **Clarify feedback.** Question marks and notes about a confusing statement may point you to an issue but does not provide actionable, constructive feedback. Ask for a post-feedback discussion to thoughtfully respond and clarify feedback.
- **Incorporate feedback appropriate to the stage of writing.** Receiving grammar corrections and feedback to rewrite a section at the same time can be frustrating. Correcting sentences and grammar may seem a good way to ease into revisions, but ultimately creates more work.

## Feedback During the Writing Process

### Outline:

- Submit an outline of your manuscript to your mentor before you begin to write. It should include all major sections and their key details.
- Ask for feedback on the structure and proposed scientific content.

### Early Draft(s):

- Exchange early drafts with fellow lab members, requesting them to focus on the scientific content and structure.
- Be specific about the type of feedback that you want when you submit a draft to your mentor.