

# Review the writing process

- Thinking
  - Topic sentence
  - Brainstorming
- Organizing
  - Choose good ideas
  - Make an outline
- Writing
- Revising
  - and re-revising, and re-re-revising

# The writing process

- If you divide the process of writing into smaller steps, each step becomes easier.
- *Easier* is not necessarily *easy*.
- Concentrate on the current step. Don't worry about the other steps yet.

# The writing process

- Step 1: Thinking
  - Start with a general topic.
  - Narrow this to a specific focus.
  - Write a topic sentence.

# The writing process

- Topic sentence
  - The main idea of the paragraph
  - Most important sentence
  - Usually the first sentence
  - Specific enough to explain completely
  - General enough to say some interesting things

# The writing process

- Step 1: Thinking
  - Brainstorm: Think about all the things you could say related to the topic sentence.
  - In the next step, you will choose the best ideas.

# The writing process

- Step 2: Organizing
  - Choose the ideas that support the topic sentence.
  - Choose ideas that all fit together.
  - Decide what order to write about these ideas.
  - Make an outline.

# Use an outline!

- Makes writing better organized
- Makes writing faster
- Improves your English

# The writing process

- Step 3: Writing
  - Write your ideas in English sentences.
  - Follow the outline.



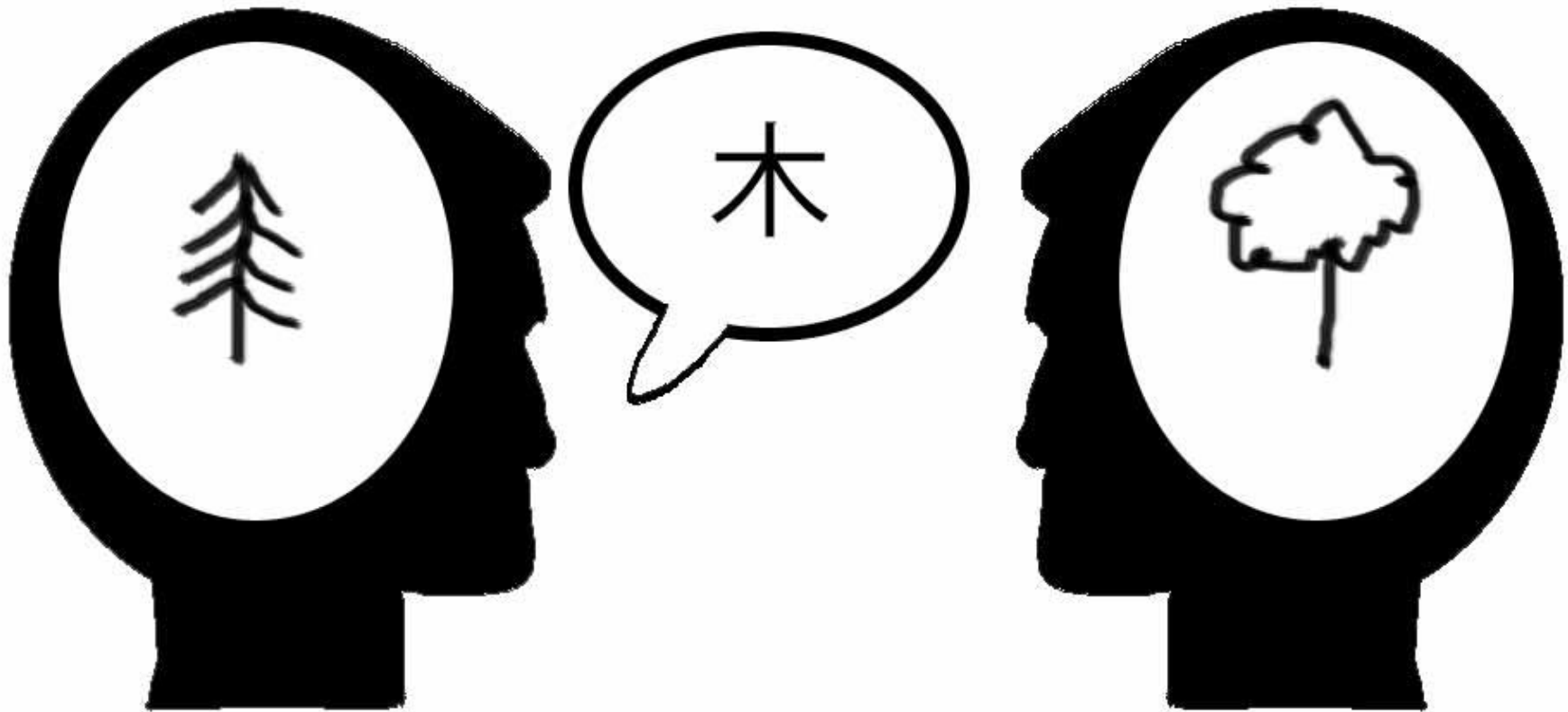
# The writing process

- Step 4: Revising
  - Read what you wrote and think about how it could be even better.
  - Write it again with those changes.

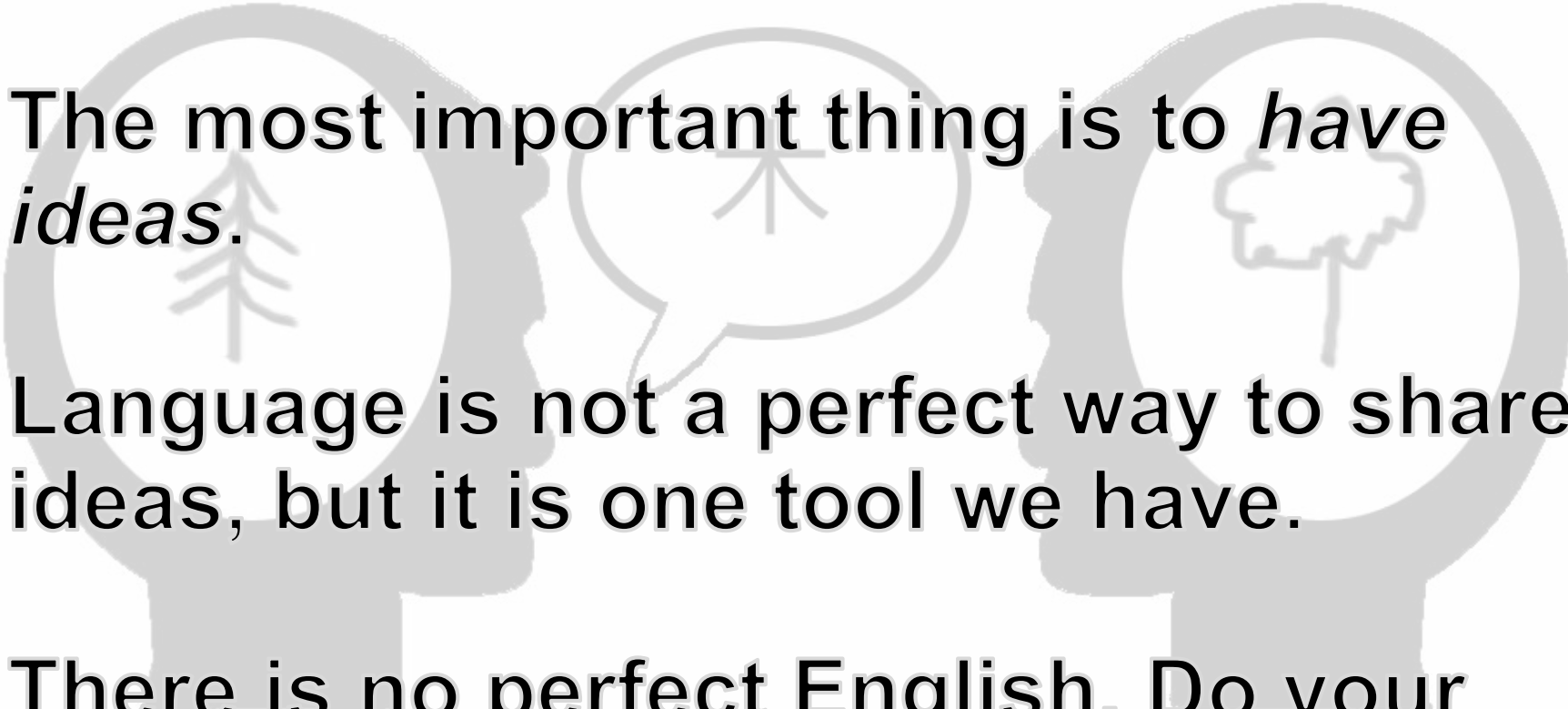
# Revising and editing

- Minor revisions: fix small mistakes or add information
- Major revisions: go back to thinking and organizing to make the paragraph clearer
- After you revise, read it again.
- Grammar is the ***least*** important thing, but do fix mistakes if you find them.

# Language is a tool



# Language is a tool

- Language is a way to share your ideas.
  - The most important thing is to *have ideas*.
  - Language is not a perfect way to share ideas, but it is one tool we have.
  - There is no perfect English. Do your best, but don't be afraid to fail.
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# Skills are transferable

- We have practiced academic English.
  - Think about your specific message.
  - Communicate it as clearly as you can.
  - Support your point.
  - Think about your reader.

# Skills are transferable

- These skills are also useful in other settings.
  - Writing longer papers
  - Writing emails
  - Speaking in formal settings
  - Writing in Japanese (for some purposes)

# Don't be afraid to fail

- The only way to improve a skill is to practice.
- Don't be afraid to struggle until you can do it.
  - 「100回トライして99回失敗していい。」 本田宗一郎

# From now on

- If you keep practicing, you will keep improving.
- If you pretend you are good at English, soon you will be good at English.