

Using the Last Five Minutes!

- Read each fact in the body of the piece. Ask: **“What does it look like? Why is it important?”** Use a caret to insert these details.
- Locate overly general adjectives such as “nice,” “pretty,” “cool,” “awesome,” and replace them with **specific descriptive details**.
- Replace general words with **specific examples** and add adjectives:
Ex. Replace “*Birds*” with “*noisy white and gray gulls*”
Replace “*Trees*” with “*towering blue-green pines*”
- Add an **anecdote, quote, or descriptive segment** to add some punch to your piece.
- Look at your topic word and each main idea “blurb”. Replace the redundant use of these words with some interesting **word referents**.
- Check your introduction. Do you have a strong **LEAD**?
- Read your conclusion. Add a **hypothetical anecdote, a question, informative verbs, and a definitive word or phrase**.