



Metanoia

Metanoia is a rhetorical device in which a writer immediately corrects or modifies something that they have just said. There are three types of metanoia:

- The second statement strengthens the first statement
- The second statement softens the first statement
- The second statement makes the first statement more precise

A metanoia is not an additional statement, but a modification of what was just said. For example:

“To help or, at least, to do no harm.” (The Hippocratic Oath)

“I have my shortcomings, through my own fault and through my failure to observe the admonitions of the gods – and I may almost say, their direct instructions.” (from Marcus Aurelius’ Meditations)

DIRECTIONS: Read the assigned text. Identify the metanoia. Write it in the speech bubble. What kind of metanoia is it?

Type of Metanoia:
