How to edit and improve your story

Well done, all of you story-writers. What I have seen so far has been great. This is what I have been especially impressed with:

* **Great detail to show that your setting is The Stone Age**
* **Fabulous description, with some of you using some of that language you have been practising over the last couple of weeks**
* **Strong beginning and ending, as well as middle**
* **Writing consistently in the first person (I) and the past tense**

Your next task is to **edit and improve your story**, to make it twice as good! Here are some things to think about. Ideally, you need to work through and think about them all. If you can’t manage them all, think about most of them:

* Read through every sentence out loud, with good expression, checking for capital letters and punctuation. You should also notice here any sentences which don’t quite make sense and you should change them, so they do
* As you read through, underline any words where the spelling may not be correct, then check and correct
* Now skim and scan to spot any weak or okay parts, which you could improve. How about a stronger verb, instead of *went* or *said*?
* Think about your fronted adverbials at the start of your paragraphs. Are they original or do you keep repeating the same thing? Have you added a comma for each?
* Read at least 2 paragraphs and see if you can add more strong *adjectives* or *adverbs* (which tell us *how* something was done)
* - How good is your description of Stonehenge? Would it create a good enough picture for someone who had never visited? Are you sure?
* How good are your sentences? Do you have a *some:others* sentence? What about a *With a …, -ed …*? Or a *–ing, I –ed …*? Do you have a *short sentence*? Do you have a *rhetorical question*?
* Have you used a *simile or metaphor*? What about some *alliteration*? You can do it!
* Finally, have you introduced a character and, if so, have you checked *all* the rules of speech punctuation?

If you have done all, or most, of these, your story should be AT LEAST TWICE AS GOOD.

Well done!