
Writing Process Self-Assessment

Introduction

While “The Writing Process” is simply a pedagogical model for helping us develop our writing, understanding our own “writing processes” can help us improve writing complex texts by giving us a way of understanding the various aspects that go into creating them. The ten questions below are designed to get you thinking about how you have approached academic writing in the past, and how that approach may be evolving as you continue in this course. Your reflection on these questions is important to your ability to model your own writing habits, and (perhaps) adapt them as you continue to practice writing.

Directions

Please read the questions below. Choose the four questions that you feel that are most relevant to your own individual experience. Write one well-developed paragraph in response to each question. The most important part of this assignment is providing thoughtful answers to the questions below. Please print out your assignment and bring it to class. **Please staple your document.**

Questions

1. What is your own individual writing process? How does it differ from the writing process explained on page 60 of Locker & Kaczmarek?
2. How has your writing process evolved since you have started writing in college?
3. What is the most complicated thing you have written –what process did you use to write it?
4. What “invention” or planning strategies do you use: brainstorm, cluster, free-writing, talking it out, others?
5. What does your revision or editing process typically look like for an academic writing assignment?
6. How do you budget your time when writing among preparation, drafting, and revising?
7. Is there a part of the writing process for academic texts that you have the most trouble with? What is it, and why?
8. Have you experienced any triumphs as an academic writer? What?
9. When you encounter a seemingly insurmountable problem (i.e., writers’ block), how do you overcome it?
10. Have you ever team-written an academic text? What was that experience like for you? How did you divide the work?
11. If you could improve one aspect of academic writing the most, what would it be? Why does it need to be improved?