



The Writing Process

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Stages of the Writing Process

Writing is a **process** that is done through a series of stages:

- I. Prewriting
- II. Drafting
- III. Editing, and Proofreading



1. Prewriting

- Choose a topic to write on
 - choose/narrow your topic
- Determine your
 - Audience
 - Purpose
 - Tone
 - Point-of-view
 - Tense
- Focus in on central ideas
- Explore your topic
 - Brainstorm or generate ideas for your topic
- Make a plan



Choosing a Topic

- Your topic should pass the 3-question test:
 - Does it interest me?
 - Do I have something to say about it?
 - Is it specific?

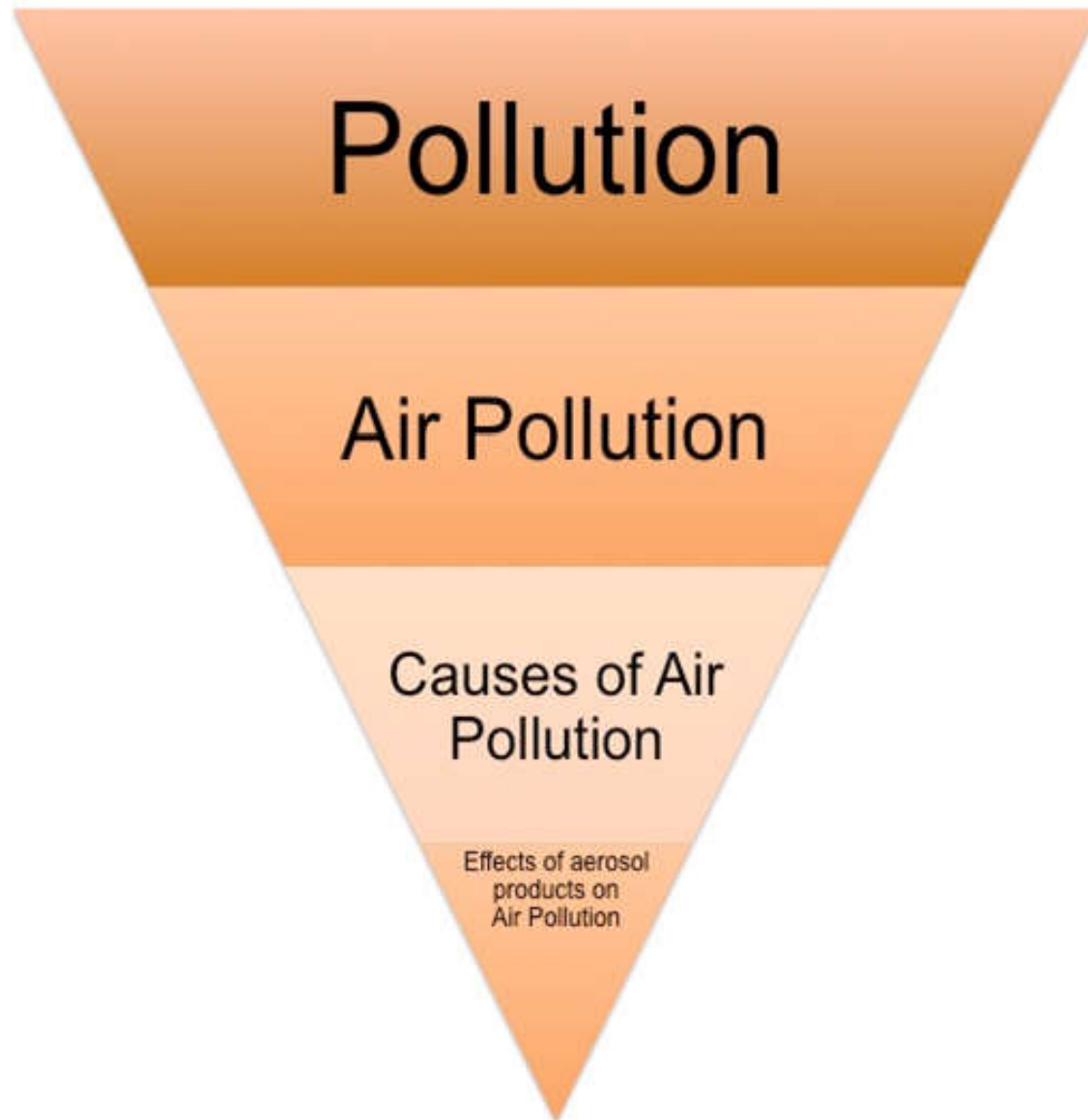


How to narrow down a topic?

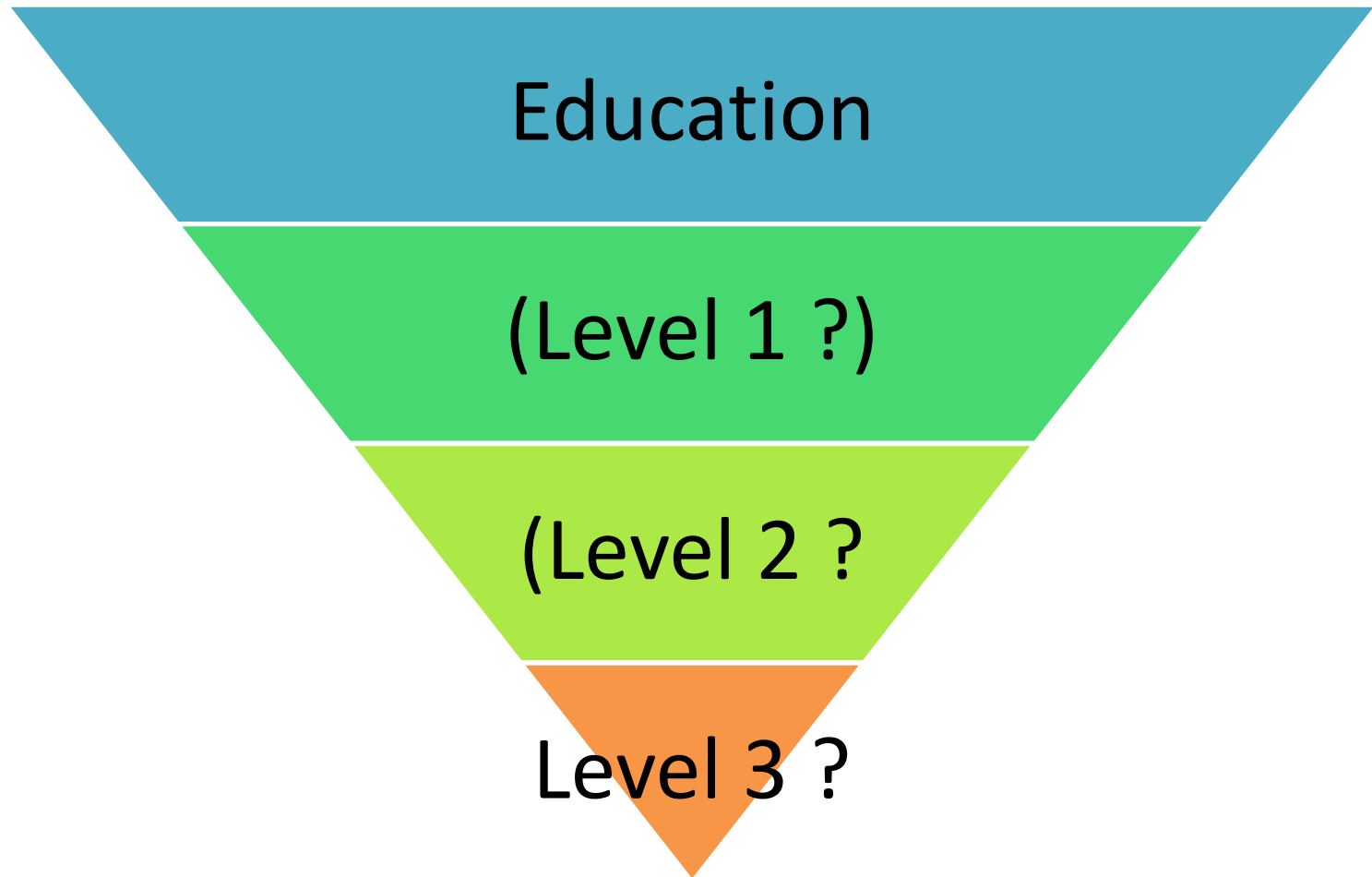
- **Aspect:** Select one perspective/aspect and use it for viewing a problem.
 - For example, instead of studying the different factors that cause cancer, study how smoking can cause lung cancer.
- **Components or Elements:** Figure out the type or category.
 - For example, a topic on tobacco use among teenagers can be narrowed down to chewing tobacco instead of all forms of tobacco use or teenagers in general.
- **Place:** Analyzing a smaller geographical unit means a narrow topical focus.
 - For example, instead of studying trade relations in Asia, focus on trade relations between China and Singapore guide you in explaining problems in that region.
- **Time:** Adding a time frame narrows the topic .
 - For example, instead of studying trade relations between China and Singapore, focus on the trade relations between China and Singapore between 2010 and 2018.



Narrowing Down a Topic



Your Turn Now!



Still Your Turn!

- Narrow down the following topics:
 - Exercise
 - Football
 - Reading
 - Films
 - Food



Prewriting Techniques

1) Free writing:

Write rapidly, without stopping for about five to ten minutes. Do not worry about spelling, punctuation or word usage, just write constantly.

2) Brain storming:

Freely jotting down ideas about a topic.

3) Asking Questions:

Ask as many questions as you can think of. Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?

4) Listing:

Make a list of all the ideas that come to your mind.

5) Clustering:

It is more like brainstorming, but in a diagram form.

6) Outlining

It is a more sequenced prewriting technique.



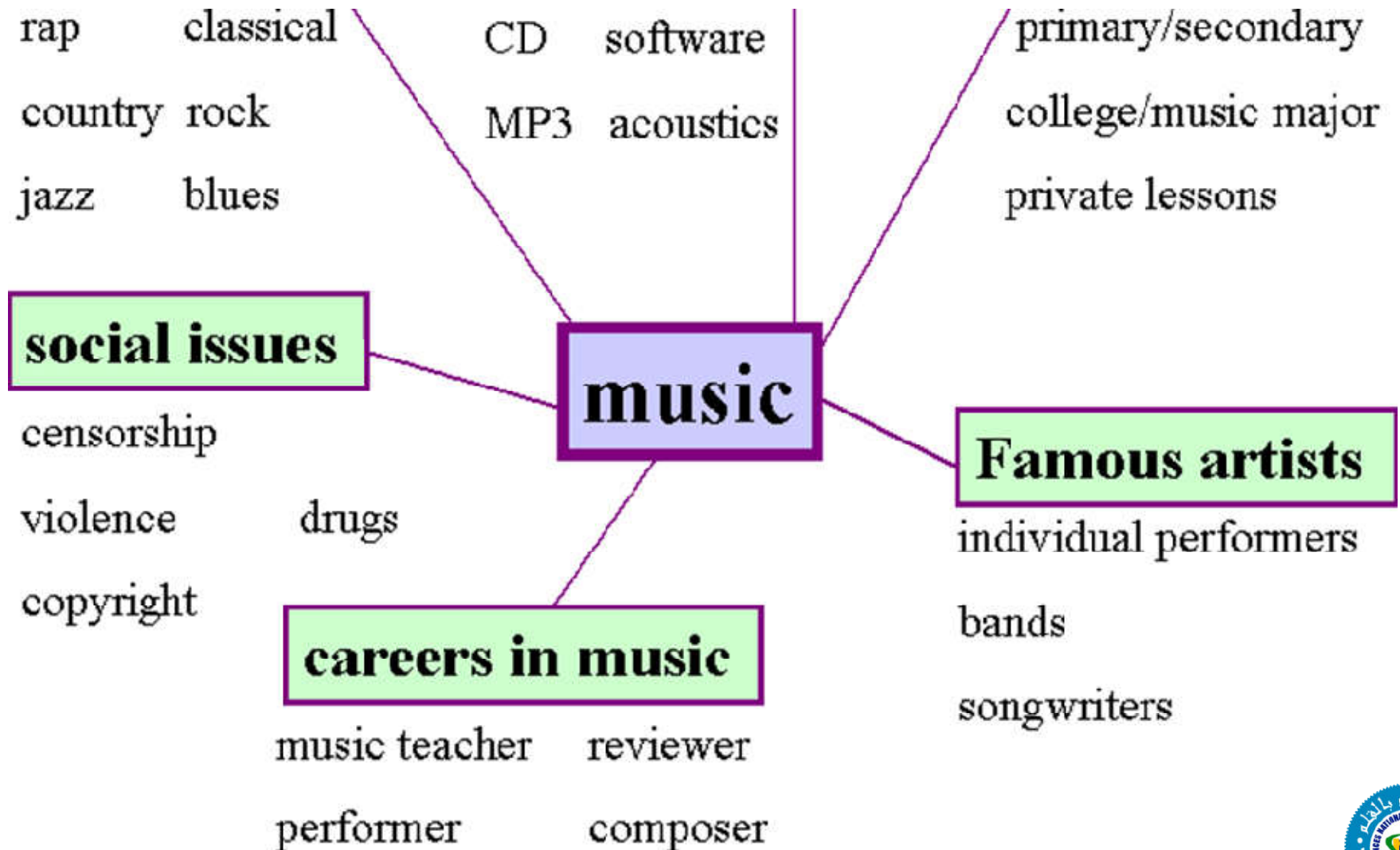
Listing

Topic: Describe your favorite room in the house or an apartment where you live.

- Kitchen/Dining Area
- White tile, walls, countertops
- Flood of sunlight
- Healthy plants
- Sturdy pine furniture
- Glass door--view of lawn and trees



Clustering



Outlining

I. Introduction

Internet “dating” has advantages and disadvantages.

II. Advantages

- a) meet people around the world
- b) not based on appearance

III. Disadvantages

- a) can you trust them?
- b) may be too far away to meet in person

IV. Conclusion

Some success stories, but too risky



Thesis Statement

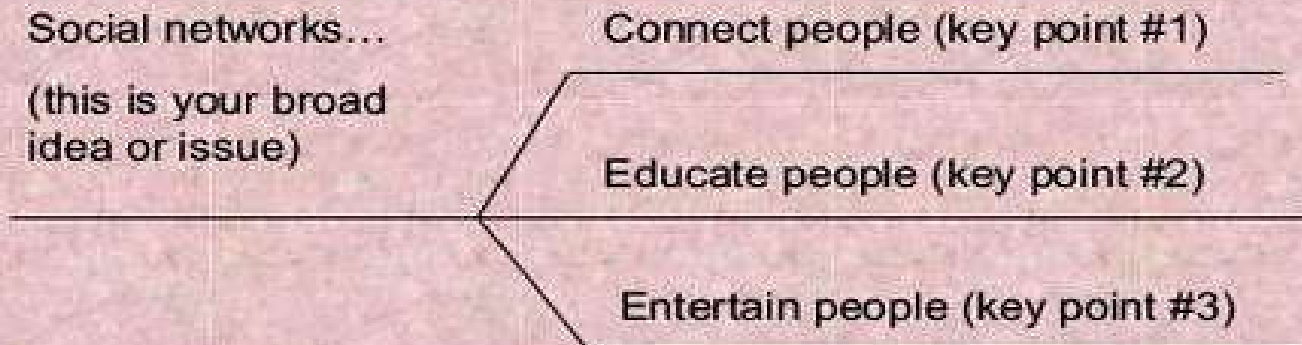
- A 3-point thesis statement is a coherent statement that integrates the three essential components of a standard thesis statement.
 - It includes a topic, an assertion, and reasons justifying the claim.
 - Thesis statement = Narrowed topic + Main point + First supporting reason/idea + Second supporting reason/idea + Third supporting reason/idea



How to Explore points?

Use this graphic for three points

- Sample: I want to argue that social network sites are good for kids and society.
- Now I need to think of three points



Practice Writing a Thesis Statement

- Writing Prompt:

1. *Should students be allowed to eat snacks in the classroom? Why or why not?*

Thesis Statement:

- Students (should / should not) be allowed to eat snacks in the classroom because

_____, _____, and _____.

- Writing Prompt:

2. Write an essay explaining why a decision you made was the right one?

Thesis Statement:

- My decision to _____ was the right one because _____, _____, and _____.



Practice Adding a Topic Sentence

Add Thesis Statement:

Topic Sentence Paragraph

1: _____

Topic Sentence Paragraph

2: _____

Topic Sentence Paragraph

3: _____



Practice Writing a Thesis Statement from an Outline

Instructions: Read the outline and write a thesis statement.

Topic: Young people should pay attention to politics.

- A. Young people are intelligent enough to understand what's going on.
- B. Politics affects everyone's lives, including young people's.
- C. Paying attention to politics now will help young people to be informed citizens when they are old enough to vote.

Write a thesis statement:



2. Drafting

- **Drafting** - Putting your ideas and thoughts together in sentences and paragraphs.
 - In this part, you will organize all of your notes from your pre-writing. Look at your notes and organize them into separate paragraphs. These paragraphs should be supportive of your introduction and your thesis statement. Everything needs to flow smoothly.
 - The conclusion, or "end", of your article should sum up what you have said, without repeating too much. It should give the reader some final thoughts on the topic you are writing about.



3. Revising

- **Revising** is rewriting or rearranging sentences to make sense.
 - making decisions about how you want to improve your writing
 - looking at your writing from a different point of view
 - picking places where your writing could be clearer, more interesting, more informative and more convincing.





Thanks