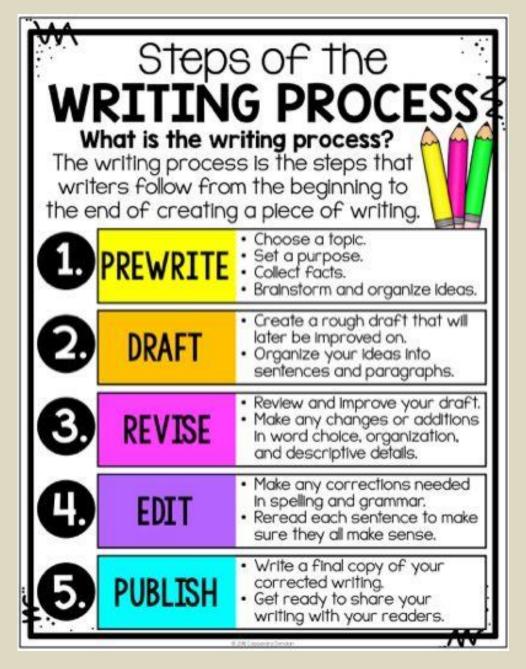
Planning



Writing 2101

Dr. Andrew Chater

Week 4



1) How To Understand Your Assignment

Term	Definition
Analyze	Find connections and meaning between things
Compare and contrast	What do these things have in common and how are they different?
Critique	Give difference perspectives
Evaluate	Set criteria and relate a concept or idea to the criteria
Define	Say what something is
Describe	Give the details of something
Propose	Give a solution to a problem
Reflect	Apply ideas from the course to something

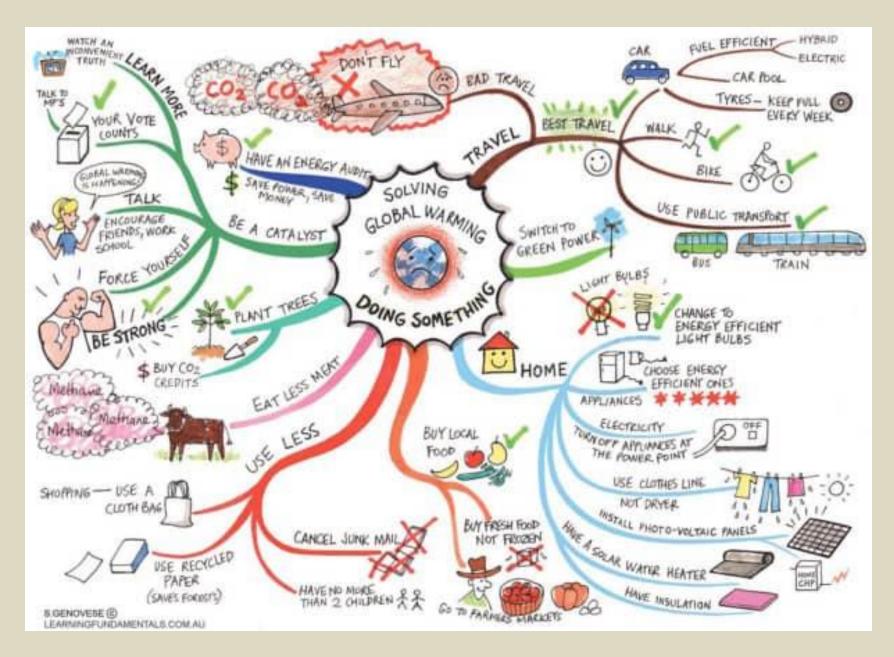
2) How To Brainstorm

- 1. Who, what, when, where, why, how
- 2. Free write
- 3. Idea map
- 4. Write a response
- 5. Talk it out
- 6. Do a little pre-research (even Wikipedia!)



Have you used one of these strategies before?

	Fleewite
	How old are bicycles? I know maybe mid-194h
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Century, but when is the first mass-produced bine
1040	available to the public. The First bithes were hilavious
1.4	with their giant Fions wheelo and tiny back wheels
1.1	and awhward pedal positions. I wonder what the
	logic of that design was. Did the wheel engineers
	of the time hoons something we don't? Bicycles
	are common now but when could a family just go
1010	buy a bine ? mos IF the expansion of bicycle use
104	has any connection to the industricu levolution,
131	that could be a factor in the development of
1	uban hansportation systems.



Source = Learning Fundamentals

3) How To Write A Thesis

- A thesis is what you will argue and how you will argue it.
- It is the answer to the research question.
- It is not the goal for research.
- Examples:
 - This paper will present the argument that it is necessary to reform the Canadian Senate because it is an unrepresentative institution.
 - In this paper, I will argue that there is no link between absorbing violent entertainment and anti-social behavior, based on the available psychological evidence.

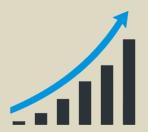
3) How To Write A Thesis

Lower level

 In this paper, I argue that students should not smoke because it is bad for health, expensive and socially undesirable.

Higher level

 In this paper, I argue that students should not smoke because doing so leads to a lower quality of life overall.



What is the difference between these theses?

4) How To Understand Research

	Qualitative	Quantitative
Conceptual	Concerned with understanding human behaviour from the informant's perspective	Concerned with discovering facts about social phenomena
	Assumes a dynamic and negotiated reality	Assumes a fixed and measurable reality
Methodological	Data are collected through participant observation and interviews	Data are collected through measuring things
	Data are analysed by themes from descriptions by informants	Data are analysed through numerical comparisons and statistical inferences
	Data are reported in the language of the informant	Data are reported through statistical analyses

Example: What has been the impact of COVID-19 on university student learning in Canada?

What are advantages and disadvantages of each type of research?

4) How To Understand Research

Method	Explanation	Pros	Cons
Survey-	Statistical analysis of data from	"Large-n," and often	Difficult and costly to
based	a survey, often a questionnaire	generalizable beyond	create a representative
analysis	of people on a given topic	the survey participants	sample
Interview-	Qualitative analysis of data	"Small-n" and thus	Difficult and costly to
based	from key individuals, often key	provides in-depth	create a generalizable
analysis	informants on a topic	information on a topic	sample
Process	Reconstruction of an event	Documentary evidence	Documentary evidence
tracing	using documentary evidence,	often systematic and	may not exist or be
	such as letters or records	trustworthy	accessible
Literature	Overview and review of	Takes stock of	Information comes
review	academic writing on a given	academic work on a	second-hand to some
	topic	given topic	extent
Discourse	Systematic analysis of meaning	Reveals meaning of	Presumes reliability of
analysis	of speech or text	discourse	discourse

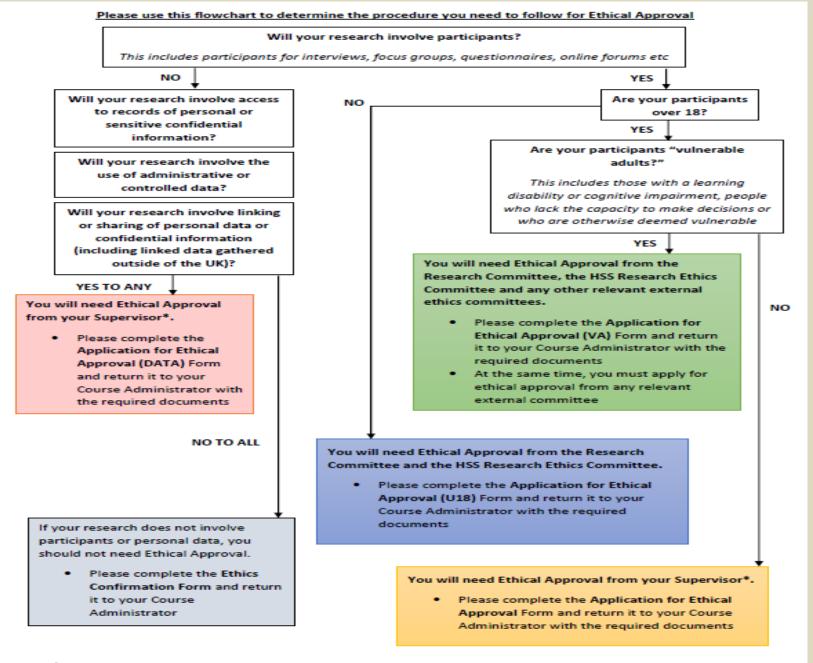
Example: What explains the

evolution of the Arctic Council?

4) How To Understand Research

- Questions to ask yourself when reading a journal article (according to Maureen A. Carey, Kevin L. Steiner and William A. Petri, Jr's "Ten Simple Rules for Reading a Scientific Paper")
 - 1. What do the author(s) want to know?
 - What did they do (approach/methods)?
 - 3. Why was it done that way (context within the field)?
 - 4. What do the results show (figures and data tables)?
 - 5. How did the author(s) interpret the results (interpretation/discussion)?
 - 6. What is good about what they did?*
 - 7. What are potential shortcomings to what they did?*
 - 8. What should be done next?





*Approvals by Supervisors will be brought to the Research Committee for light-touch review and approval.