

Writing 2101

May 12, 2021



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"A word after a word after a
word is power."



~Margaret Atwood

Today's Class

First Quiz – take up
Writing in the disciplines
Sentences & Paragraphs
Basics of Essay writing

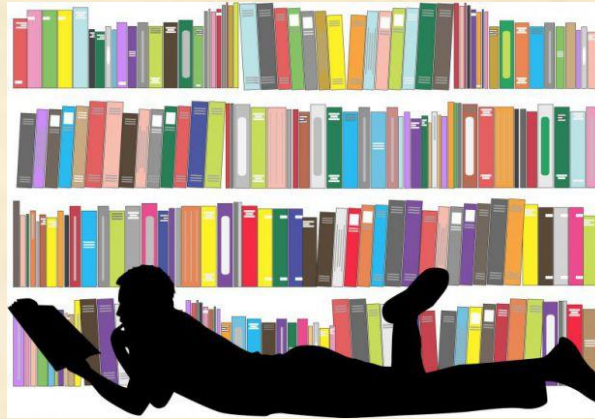
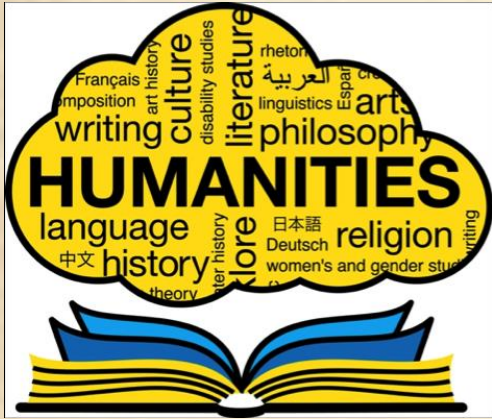


Quiz #1

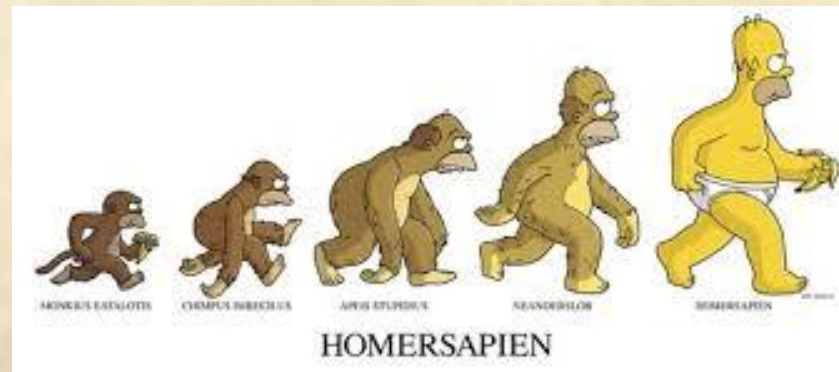
1. Give an example of a metaphor.
2. Why shouldn't you use slang in a formal essay?
3. This course has a final exam. T/F
4. Due to the fact that it was a distinctly dark and moonless night, the criminal cat burglars almost escaped the notice of the policemen.
5. Every night, the office is vacuumed and dusted by the cleaning crew.

Writing in the Disciplines

Humanities: Explore human beings and their culture



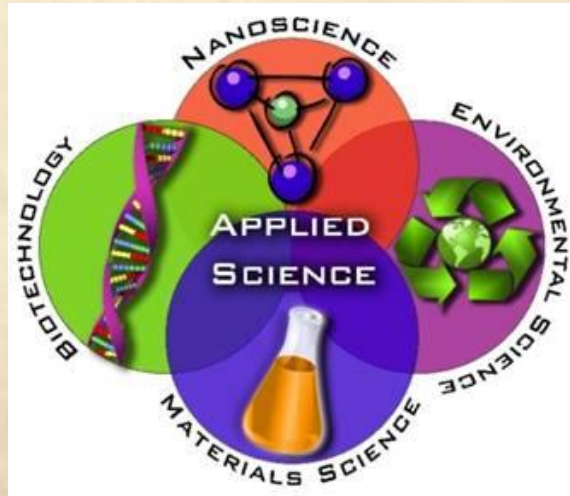
Social Sciences: Primarily concerned with how human beings, and sometimes other animals, relate to each other



Natural Sciences: The study of living things, inanimate matter, systems and processes

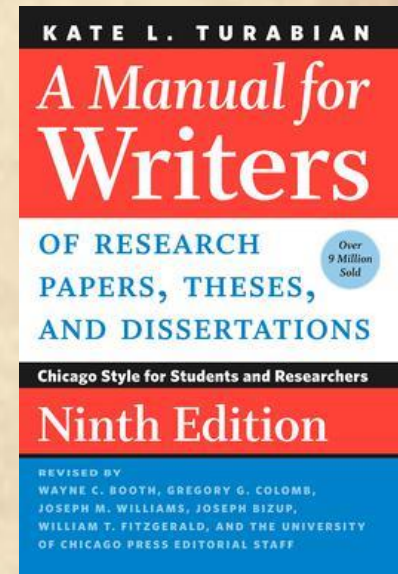
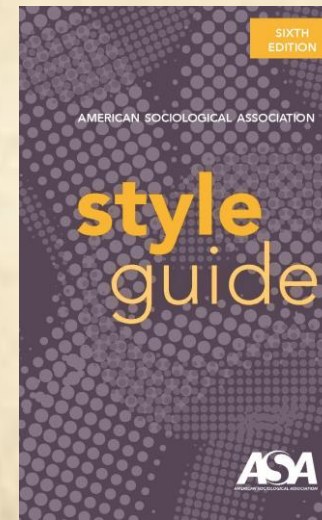
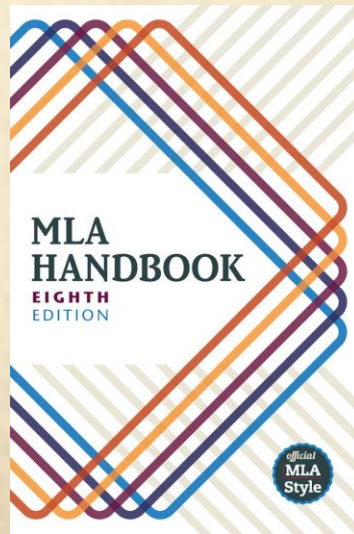


Applied Science: Practical application of science and technology to improve human civilization



Considerations for Disciplines

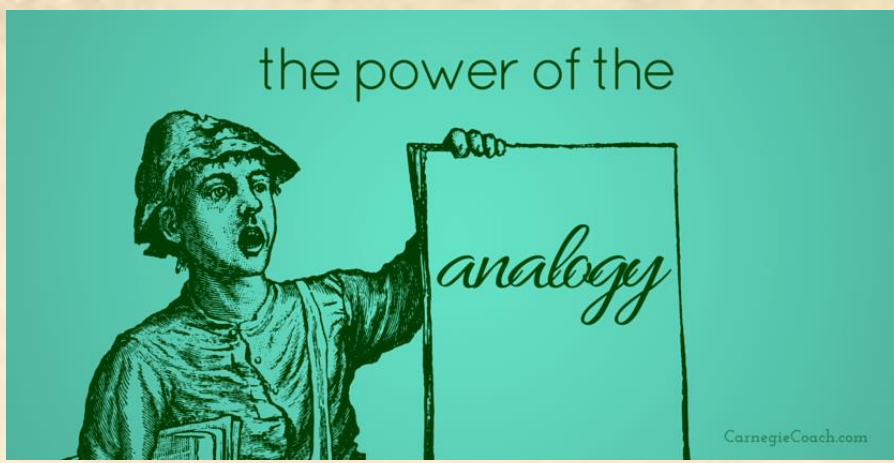
1. Understand assignments
2. Understand discipline vocabulary
3. Identify the style of your discipline
4. Understand the use of evidence
5. Use conventional patterns and formats



Assignment Key Words

- Exposition: explain (objectively)
- Analyze: find connections and make them meaningful
- Compare and Contrast: compare similarities and differences
- Definition: of a word or concept to place it in context
- Description: Paint a picture of something tangible
- Persuasion: trying to get your reader to accept your position – be objective, use facts





- Analogy: comparison which may not be immediately obvious
- Classification and Division: Grouping like things or separating into component parts
- Propose: identify a problem and explain your solution
- Evaluate: argue that something is good, bad, best, or worse
- Narration: tell a story, sequence of events



Basic Building Blocks

Sentences – all have two things

1. A complete thought
2. A subject and a verb

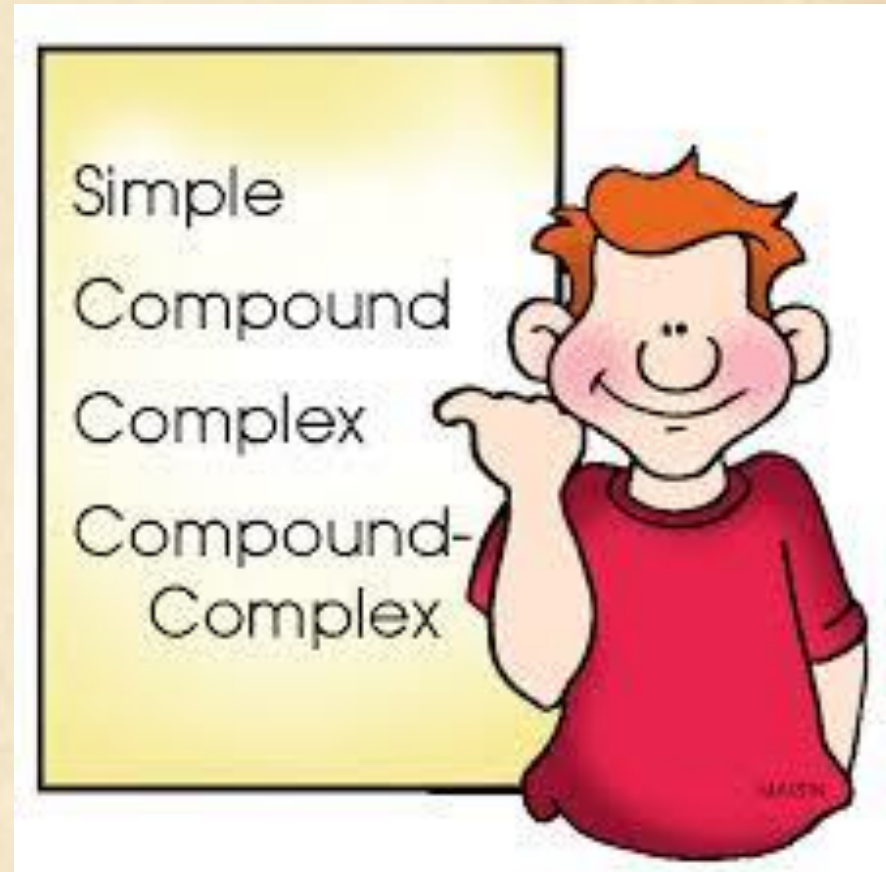


Sentence Variety

1. Variety in Sentence Types/Forms

A. Grammatical

1. Simple
2. Compound
3. Complex
4. Compound-Complex



B. Functional

1. Declarative
2. Interrogative
3. Imperative
4. Exclamatory



2. Variety in Sentence Openings
3. Strike a balance in structure and length
4. Coordination
5. Subordination



Paragraphs

1. Single focus
2. Beginning/middle/end
3. How long?
4. Good transitions



Transitions Between Sentences

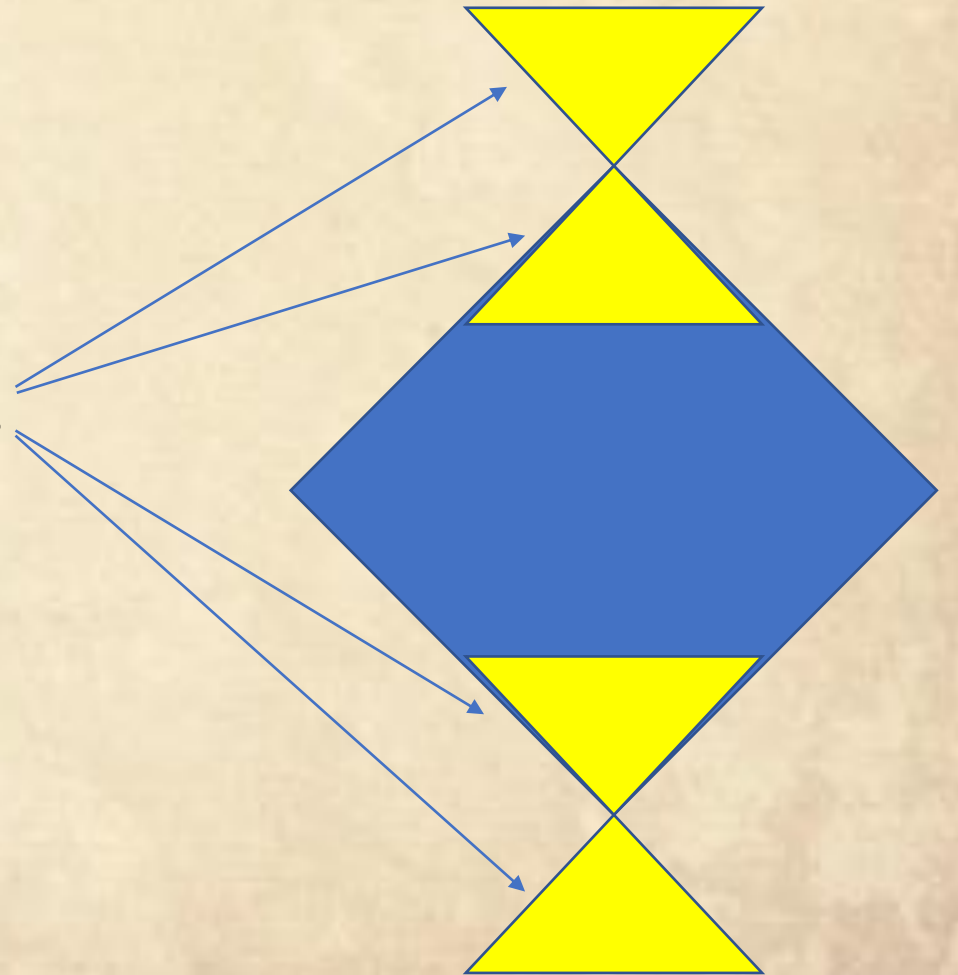
1. Chronological order
2. Logical order of points
3. Transitional expressions
4. Parallel structures
5. Repeat key words and phrases



Transitions Between Paragraphs

1. Repeat key words and phrases
2. Use parallel structures
3. Use transitional devices/phrases

Transitional sentences

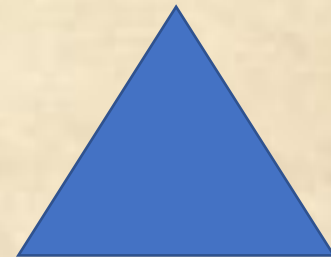
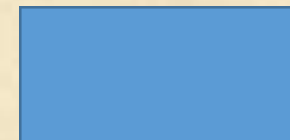
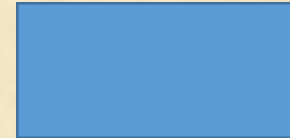
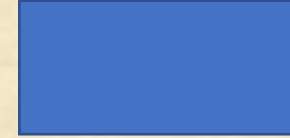
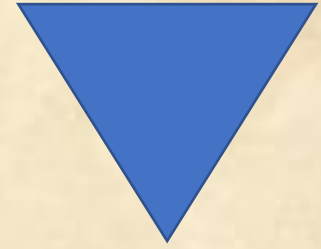


What is an essay?

Length?

Purpose?

1. Follows a specific format
2. Is built around a thesis



Writing an Essay...

1. Topic? Purpose?
2. Generate Ideas – Brainstorm
 - A. Cluster ideas – put items into related groups
 - B. Subdivide – brainstorm from an original item



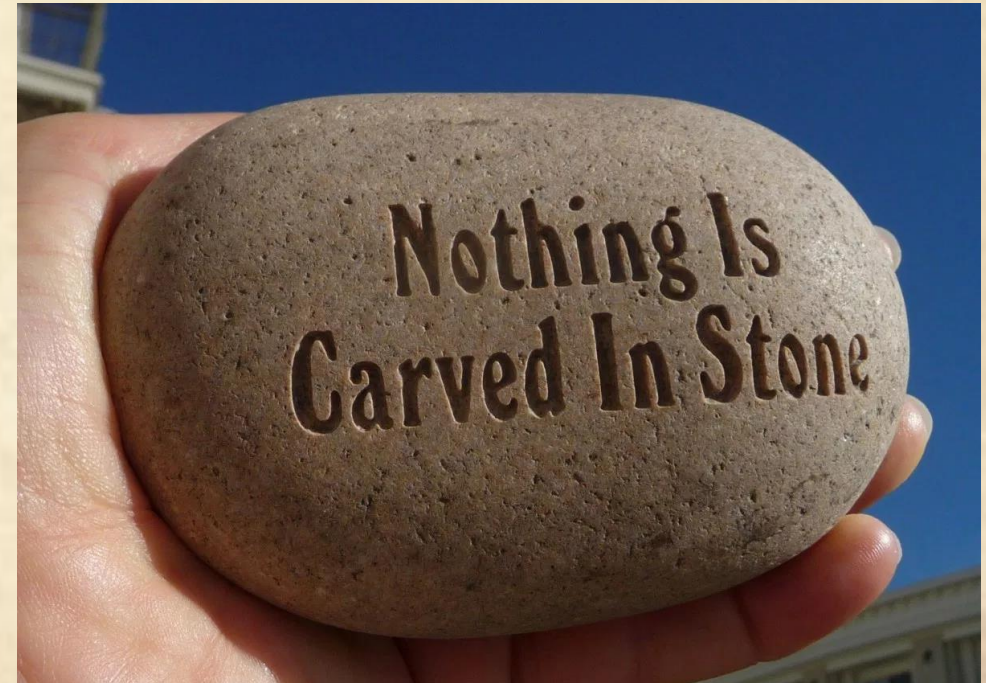
Most important sentence?

THESIS!!!

1. States the unifying idea of the essay
2. How long?
3. Open ended enough to be developed in an essay but not too broad...

First Three Steps...

1. Topic? Purpose?
2. Brainstorm
3. Tentative WORKING thesis



Good Ones

Specific

Concrete

Open-ended

Not too long



Bad Ones

Vague

Non-specific

Dead-ended

Broad



Step Four?

Outline!!!

How many currently make one?

Two ways to make an outline.

1. Tree Diagram
2. Linear or vertical list

Step Five?

Introduction

How long?

Should be ONE paragraph

Should be focused



GRABBER

THESIS

MAIN
POINTS

Why the Introduction first?

1. Most important paragraph – first impression
2. So you stay focused
3. Forces you to consolidate your ideas
4. Sets the tone

The White Rabbit put on his spectacles. "Where shall I begin, please your Majesty?" he asked.

"Begin at the beginning," the King said gravely, "and go on till you come to the end: then stop."



Grabber

Want the reader to read on...

Make a good first impression.

What can you use for a grabber?

1. Question
2. Anecdote
3. Shocking statement
4. Statistic
5. Quotation
6. Rhetorical Question

