

Welcome to RIAP

August 23, 2008

Use the tape and scissors on your table
to build your cube.

In order of difficulty?

- Effective writing instruction and effective writing programs
- Academic writing
- Writing on demand

Agenda

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 9:00-10:00 | Housekeeping (Mira) |
| 10:00-10:30 | Discussion Groups: Teaching Writing (Kathy)
The Early Assessment Program (Neida Salazar) |
| 10:30-10:45 | BREAK |
| 10:45-11:15 | Sharing Modules (Robin) |
| 11:15-11:45 | Introduction to the CAS (Kent) |
| 11:45-12:15 | Assignment of Literacy competencies (Mira) |
| 12:15-12:45 | LUNCH |
| 12:45-1:45 | CAS Part 1: Data collection (computer
Lab 2119) |
| 1:45-2:00 | Wrap up (Ximena) |

Writing Next: Evidence-based recommendations for writing instruction and writing programs

- Put a check next to all of the eleven recommendations you explicitly build into your writing instruction.
- Choose one of your checked items and highlight it in some way.
- Cubing: your checked item.

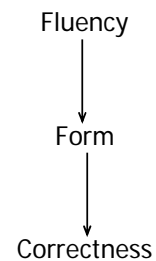
For More Information...

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Teaching Writing



Academic Writing

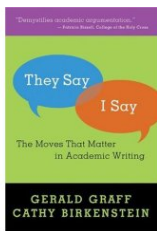
- “Experienced writing instructors have long recognized that writing well means entering into conversation with others. Academic writing in particular calls upon writers to not simply to express their own ideas, but to do so as a response to what others have said.”

■ Graff and Birkenstein

Kenneth Burke

“Someone answers; you answer him; another comes to your defense; another aligns himself against you, to either the embarrassment or gratification of your opponent, depending upon the quality of your ally's assistance. However, the discussion is interminable. The hour grows late, you must depart. And you do depart, with the discussion still vigorously in progress.”

Academic Writing: Voices in a Conversation



- A “HOW-to book”: teaches students ways to enter academic conversations.
- Prescriptive

What Have You Tried?

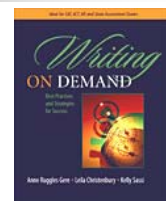


Kenneth Burke

“Imagine you enter a parlor. You come in late. When you arrive, others have long preceded you, and they are engaged in a heated discussion, a discussion too heated for them to pause and tell you exactly what it is about. In fact, the discussion had already begun long before any of them got there, so that no one present is qualified to retrace for you all the steps that had gone before. You listen for a while, until you decide that you have caught the tenor of the argument; then you put in your oar.”

On Demand Writing

The CAHSEE and Beyond



What Students Encounter on the CAHSEE

- 10TH GRADE STANDARDS
- No Time Limit
- 4 Point Scale
- Four genres
 - Biographical Essay
 - Response to Literature
 - Persuasion
 - Business Letter (8th grade standard)

Show, Don't Tell

- Be sure to support the moment with details and examples.
- Convince your readers through the use of specific reasons and examples.

Sample CAHSEE Prompt

- By the time students enter high school, they have learned about many moments in history that have influenced our world today. Think about a moment in history you studied and consider its importance.
- Write a composition in which you discuss a moment in history. Share its importance in today's world. Be sure to support the moment with details and examples.

To Do Well on the CAHSEE

- Exposition or Persuasion
 - Parse the prompt
 - Show, don't tell
 - Develop content: rich details and examples
 - Beginning, middle, end
- Just DO it!

Sample CAHSEE Prompt

- Some students at your school expressed an interest in making the school more attractive by getting rid of the trash on the school grounds.
- Write a persuasive essay for your school paper in which you convince the readers of the importance of getting rid of the trash and making the school more attractive. Convince your readers through the use of specific reasons and examples.

Sample Response (2)

Florda

This state that you can spend you vacation is Florida. With lots to do and see you will never be left out of the fun. You will see lots of amusment park on you jerony of this state of Florida.

One of the Parks is Disney world, they have lots of ride. It takes day to see it all. It also has attractions worth a while. There are others worth your while.

Another one is Universul Florida. Smaller Than Disney World, but still you should see it. There are movie stuff to see and collect. there is one more amusment park I recomend.

The last park I recomend is Sea World Florida. A park for Sea life. You see dollfins. You also see whales that are lots of fun. I think that you should join other people that visit Florad and have a blast. come and have fun!

Sample 1 Response

People should go to Las Vegas to have some fun and make some money.

SAT Sample Prompt

■ Many persons believe that to move up the ladder of success and achievement, they must forget the past, repress it, and relinquish it. But others have just the opposite view. They see old memories as a chance to reckon with the past and integrate past and present.

—Adapted from Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, *I've Known Rivers: Lives of Loss and Liberation*

■ **Assignment:** Do memories hinder or help people in their effort to learn from the past and succeed in the present? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your reading, studies, experience, or observations.

The CAHSEE

- 10th grade standards?
- 8th grade standards?
- We can't stop there!



To Do Well on the SAT

- *They Say, I Say* (argument)
- Demonstrate a clear, critical understanding of the prompt passage.
- Present a targeted, developed, and clearly presented argument.
- Display control of standard written English (decent mechanics).

What Students Encounter on the SAT

- 25 minutes
- 6 point scale
- The SAT essay measures the ability to:
 - develop a point of view on an issue presented in an excerpt
 - support a point of view using reasoning and examples from reading, studies, experience, or observations
 - follow the conventions of standard written English

What Students Encounter on the English Placement Test (EPT)

- 45 minutes
- **Purpose of the EPT**
 - The EPT is designed to assess the level of reading and writing skills of entering undergraduate students so that they can be placed in appropriate courses. Those undergraduate students who do not demonstrate college-level skills will be directed to courses or programs designed to help them attain these skills. The test is not a condition for admission to the CSU, but it is a condition of enrollment.

Sample EPT Prompt

"For many Americans, the concept of success is a source of confusion. As a people, we Americans greatly prize success. We are taught to celebrate and admire the one who gets the highest grades, the one voted most attractive or most likely to succeed. But while we often rejoice in the success of people far removed from ourselves - people who work in another profession, live in another community, or are endowed with a talent that we do not especially want for ourselves - we tend to regard the success of people close at hand, within our own small group, as a threat."

— Adapted from Margaret Mead,
The Egalitarian Error

- Explain Mead's argument and discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with her analysis. Support your position by referring to the passage and providing reasons and examples from your own experience, observations, or reading.

Creating Your Own Prompts

- Force students into conversation with a text.
 - Begin with a quotation
 - Ask them to respond to quotation based on what they've been learning in your course.
- Teach them to summarize the passage and respond to it.

To Do Well on the EPT (Focus on English)

- *They Say, I Say* (argument)
- Demonstrate a clear, critical understanding of the prompt passage.
- Present a targeted, developed, and clearly presented argument.
- Display control of standard written English (decent mechanics).

An example

- In 1860, Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote: "All we know of the egg, from each successive discovery, is, another vesicle; and if, after five hundred years, you get a better observer, or a better glass, he finds within the last observed another."
- What are the three most significant "discoveries" we have explored in biology this semester? Summarize each, providing a brief background (who made the discovery, when, and how?) and argue for the validity of your choice.

Key Lessons for On-Demand Writing

- Parse the prompt
 - What are the verbs asking you to do?
 - What is the genre asked for?
- Planning time
- Beginning, middle, end