

## Chapter 1: Why Write?

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*Choose the correct answer.*

1. Which of the following statements does NOT accurately define good writing?
  - A. Good writing expresses what you want.
  - B. Good writing meets the reader's needs.
  - C. Good writing must always contain researched information.
  - D. Good writing uses the appropriate style and format.
2. What would be a possible goal for writing?
  - A. sharing an idea
  - B. convincing the reader to take action
  - C. convincing the reader to accept a different point of view
  - D. all of the above
3. In determining your audience, what should you consider about your reader?
  - A. age
  - B. beliefs
  - C. knowledge of the topic
  - D. all of the above
4. Which of the following guidelines is common to most college writing assignments?
  - A. use conversational phrases to make your writing seem friendly and interesting
  - B. cut and paste large sections of information from the Internet
  - C. write subjectively
  - D. write objectively
5. Which of the following is NOT a good strategy for succeeding in a writing course?
  - A. Make sure you understand what your instructor expects for each assignment.
  - B. Find the best writing environment for you.
  - C. Don't discuss or share your draft with others because all ideas must be your own.
  - D. Read your paper aloud before submitting it.
6. The same kind of writing is effective in all situations.
  - A. True
  - B. False
7. Don't dwell a bad paper. Analyzing your mistakes will only discourage you and prevent you from improving.
  - A. True
  - B. False
8. The context of a writing assignment includes the writer's goal, the reader's needs, the situation, and the nature of the document.
  - A. True
  - B. False

- 9.** Using the words or ideas of other people without giving them credit is called plagiarism and is considered cheating.  
**A.** True  
**B.** False
- 10.** Good writing is a talent you are born with and there is only so much you can do to improve.  
**A.** True  
**B.** False

## Chapter 2: The Writing Process

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*For each item, determine whether the statement is true (T) or false (F).*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Good writing has a purpose and makes a point.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. While brainstorming for ideas (either by listing, freewriting, questioning, or clustering), you should edit for grammar and punctuation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Brainstorming involves creating circles, columns, boxes, and arrows to discover and organize ideas.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. A thesis is a statement that expresses your point of view and the goal of your paper.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. An outline lists the introduction, body, and conclusion of your paper.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. When you edit your essay, you should focus solely on correcting spelling and punctuation errors.

*Choose the correct answer.*

- 7. What is the first step in the writing process?
  - A. Write to get your ideas down on paper
  - B. Cool after reading the assignment requirements
  - C. Plan your paper
  - D. Prewrite to explore ideas
- 8. What are the last two steps in the writing process?
  - A. Write and Cool
  - B. Revise and Edit
  - C. Rewrite and Read aloud
  - D. none of the above
- 9. Good writers \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. use critical thinking.
  - B. only jot down everything they feel.
  - C. just repeat what they hear.
  - D. write “about” a topic.
- 10. A thesis should be supported by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. personal observations
  - B. testimony from experts or witnesses
  - C. irrelevant details
  - D. both a and b

## Chapter 3: Developing Topic Sentences & Controlling Ideas

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*Choose the correct answer.*

1. A paragraph is a group of related sentences that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. express a main idea
  - B. use correct grammar throughout
  - C. help the reader understand the way words are used
  - D. support no more than three main ideas
2. A paragraph generally \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. may be indented when it makes a strong point
  - B. keeps the writer from making too many errors in punctuation
  - C. develops a single main idea expressed in a topic sentence
  - D. makes a point with which the reader will always agree
3. A topic sentence \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. announces a shift in topic
  - B. tells the reader what the paragraph is about
  - C. explains the main points in the paragraph
  - D. tends to be shocking in order to catch the reader's attention
4. Paragraph breaks resemble chapters in a book in that they \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. lead the way to many different examples to help the reader understand the story
  - B. provide pauses, allowing readers to think about ideas before moving to new material
  - C. tie together several different details to help develop the story
  - D. link the details of several main ideas together into one controlling point
5. One characteristic of a topic sentence is that it \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. should be on a topic that everyone likes
  - B. reflects the writer's educational background
  - C. makes the reader feel enthusiastic about the topic
  - D. can appear anywhere in a paragraph
6. All of the following statements are true about topic sentences *except*.
  - A. Topic sentences announce shifts in the writer's train of thought.
  - B. Topic sentences dramatize a writer's main points, making writing easier to read and remember.
  - C. Topic sentences make a very specific statement that supports the rest of the paragraph.
  - D. Topic sentences state a controlling idea that expresses a main point or opinion.

*Examine each group of sentences and choose the topic sentence (A or B) that has the most focused controlling idea.*

7. **A)** Many crafts and hobbies make good winter activities.  
**B)** Knitting is a good winter hobby.
8. **A)** There are many ways to save money.  
**B)** Several small, easy steps can help homeowners lower their heating bills.
9. **A)** The acting in *Gone with the Wind* is superb.  
**B)** Although an old movie, *Gone with the Wind* is still an excellent movie.
10. **A)** Students can improve their comprehension by using the technique of annotating as they read.  
**B)** Many students aren't prepared for college courses.