

ULAB1112

English for Academic Communication

THE WRITING PROCESS

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The Writing Process

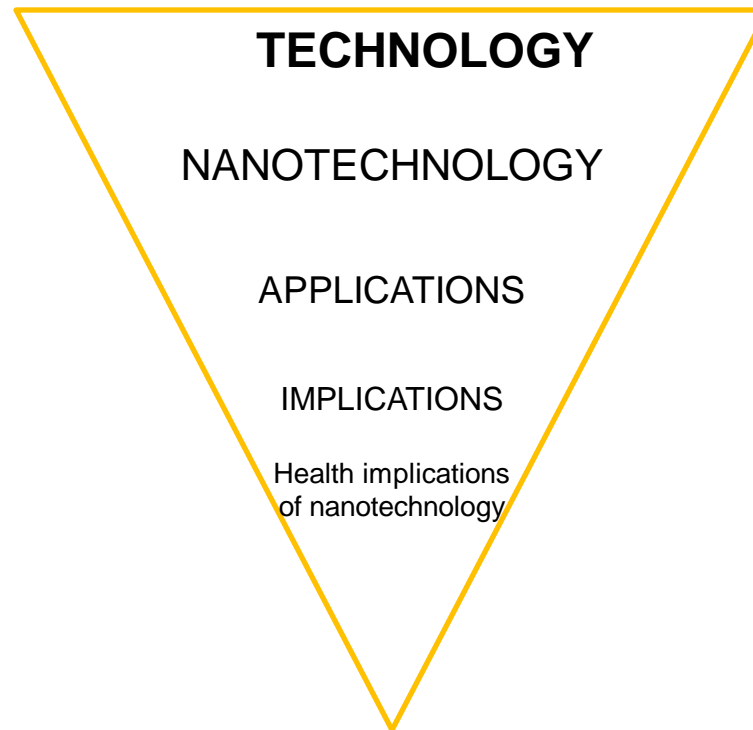
1. Pre-writing stage
2. Writing stage
3. Post-writing stage

Pre-Writing Stage

1. Topic selection
2. Brainstorming
3. Outlining

Pre-Writing: Topic Selection

- Narrow the topic to a particular aspect of that general subject.



Pre-Writing: Brainstorming

- Why?
 - To generate creative ideas
 - To save time in the later stages of writing process
- How?
 - Listing
 - Freewriting
 - Clustering

Pre-Writing: Outlining

- Organize ideas from brainstorming into an outline.
- Steps:
 1. Sublists
 2. Preliminary outline
 3. Topic sentence
 4. Outline

Pre-Writing: Outlining: Sublists

Implications of Nanotechnology on Health

- health hazards
- medical applications
 - safety risk
- cure ovarian cancer
 - toxic
- workplace exposure
 - inhalation
- penetration to skin
- nanotech gene therapy
 - nanomedicine
 - cure disease

Pre-Writing: Outlining: Preliminary Outline

Implications of Nanotechnology on Health

1. cure disease

- medical applications
- nanomedicine
- nanotech gene therapy
- cure ovarian cancer

2. health hazards

- toxic
- workplace exposure
- inhalation
- penetration to skin

Pre-Writing: Outlining: Topic Sentence

Being an emerging field, experts are still debating on the extent of benefits and risks of nanotechnology to human health.

Pre-Writing: Outlining: Outline

Outline

Thesis statement

Topic sentence

Supporting
details

Topic sentence

Supporting
details

Implications of Nanotechnology on Health

Being an emerging field, experts are still debating on the extent of benefits and risks of nanotechnology to human health.

A. The field of nanotechnology can bring benefits to human health

- Cure ovarian cancer
- Nanomedicine
- Nanotech gene therapy

B. At the same time, nanotechnology could risk human health

- toxic
- workplace exposure
- inhalation
- penetration to skin

Writing Stage

INTRODUCTION

- General statements
- Thesis statement

Body

- Topic sentence
- Supporting details
- Supporting details
- Concluding sentence → optional

Conclusion

- Restatement or summary of the main points
- Final comment

Writing Stage: Introduction

1. General Statements

- Capture readers' attention on the topic
- Give general comments about the topic
- Provide background information
- Lead to the thesis statement

2. Thesis Statement

- States the controlling idea
- Lists subtopics
- May indicate method of organization

Writing Stage: Introduction

Example:

Recently, the world was shocked by a CCTV recording showing a Chinese toddler being hit by a van. It became the talk of people all around the world in such a short time, and all of the viewers ponder, why did not one person out of all that was present then had helped the child? Such cases had occurred before like the murder of Kitty Genovese in New York. Both cases occurred with the presence of witnesses and not one witness had intervened. The reasons to such behaviour are the inability to detect and recognize a situation as an emergency, and the surrounding and presence of others.

Writing Stage: Body

Paragraph structure:

- a topic sentence
- supporting sentences
- a concluding sentence (optional)

Writing Stage: Body: Topic Sentence

1. States:

- the topic
- the controlling idea

- Example:

- Brisk walk can maintain and improve muscles and ligaments.
- AIDS can be transmitted in four different ways.

Writing Stage: Body: Topic Sentence

- ❖ The **topic** names the subject/main ideas of the paragraph.
- ❖ The **controlling idea** makes a specific comment about the topic. It limits the topic to a specific topic to be discussed.

Writing Stage: Body: Topic Sentence

Position:

1. First sentence in a paragraph.
2. Last sentence in a paragraph.

Writing Stage: Body: Topic Sentence Position ?

Financial literacy is a practical aspect that needs to be taught to all graduates because they lack awareness on this issue. For example, students may not know that their student loan could influence their capability to live comfortably after graduation. Similarly, having lived in residential college all their study years, they might have problem to draw their budget accordingly when they enter the working world. Therefore, all higher learning institutions should ensure their students to be financially literate so that after graduation they are able to make sound financial decisions.

Writing Stage: Body: Topic Sentence

Position ?

Tsunami is known as a natural disaster so powerful that it can cause massive destruction to a country. These violent waves can reach over 30.5 meters in height and move across the sea at the speed of up to 805 kilometres an hour. Consequently, in less than a day, the waves could travel across the Pacific Ocean without losing momentum along the way. When the waves hit shore, they carry enough force to kill people and destroy properties.

Writing Stage: Body: Topic Sentence

Position ?

In the year 1992, a vaccine for Hepatitis B was first discovered. Four years later, the first mammal, Dolly the sheep, was successfully cloned. By the year 2014, with the advancements in the field of genetic therapy, scientists will be able to manipulate genes for abilities, intelligence, and physical appearance so that parents will be able to create designer children. By 2020, most heart diseases and strokes will become controllable, and by 2030, brain disorders like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease will have cures. **These are just a few examples of medical progressions that have been discovered in the past and are expected to emerge in the next few decades.**

Writing Stage: Body: Supporting Details

- Its job is to **develop and discuss the topic sentence** adequately.
- How?
 - Use examples and illustrations
 - Provide facts, statistics, evidence, details
 - Define terms
 - Compare and contrast
 - Evaluate causes and reasons
 - Examine effects and consequences
 - Describe chronology of an event

Writing Stage: Body: Supporting Details

Financial literacy is a practical aspect that needs to be taught to all graduates because they lack awareness on this issue. For example, students may not know that their student loan could influence their capability to live comfortably after graduation. Similarly, having lived in residential college all their study years, they might have problem to draw their budget accordingly when they enter the working world. Therefore, all higher learning institutions should ensure their students to be financially literate so that after graduation they are able to make sound financial decisions.

Writing Stage: Body: Supporting Details

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Writing Stage: Body: Supporting Details

In the year 1992, a vaccine for Hepatitis B was first discovered. Four years later, the first mammal, Dolly the sheep, was successfully cloned. By the year 2014, with the advancements in the field of genetic therapy, scientists will be able to manipulate genes for abilities, intelligence, and physical appearance so that parents will be able to create designer children. By 2020, most heart diseases and strokes will become controllable, and by 2030, brain disorders like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease will have cures. These are just a few examples of medical progressions that have been discovered in the past and are expected to emerge in the next few decades.

Writing Stage: Body: Concluding Sentence

- ***Restate*** the topic sentence in different way.
- A ***concluding sentence*** ties the point made earlier in the paragraph.
- It ***summarizes*** the paragraph.

Writing Stage: Body: Concluding Sentence

End-of-Paragraph Signals:

These are followed by a comma	These are not followed by a comma
Finally, In conclusion, In summary, Therefore, Thus, As a result, Indeed, In brief, In short,	We can see that It is clear that These examples show that There can be no doubt that The evidence suggests that

Writing Stage: Body: Concluding Sentence

Types of concluding sentence:

- Paraphrase the topic sentence
- Summarize the main point of the paragraph

Writing Stage: Body: Concluding Sentence

Financial literacy is a practical aspect that needs to be taught to all graduates because they lack awareness on this issue. For example, students may not know that their student loan could influence their capability to live comfortably after graduation. Similarly, having lived in residential college all their study years, they might have problem to draw their budget accordingly when they enter the working world. **Therefore, all higher learning institutions should ensure their students to be financially literate so that after graduation they are able to make sound financial decisions.**

Writing Stage: Body: Concluding Sentence

Tsunami is known as a natural disaster so powerful that it can cause massive destruction to a country. These violent waves can reach over 30.5 meters in height and move across the sea at the speed of up to 805 kilometres an hour. Consequently, in less than a day, the waves could travel across the Pacific Ocean without losing momentum along the way. **When the waves hit shore, they carry enough force to kill people and destroy properties.**

Writing Stage: Body: Conclusion

- It consists of:
 - A summary of the main points / restatement of thesis in different words.
 - Final comment on the subject / food for thought.

Writing Stage: Body: Conclusion

From the reasons stated above, it can be concluded that there are two reasons as to an incident like the one in China occurred.

The first one is the inability of the witnesses to help and the other is because of the presence of others during the event.

A summary of the main points / restatement of thesis in different words.

Therefore, we cannot solely blame it upon the people's culture and when such situations happen, we need to investigate and understand the real reason behind it. Although that is the case, it would not hurt for each of us to train ourselves to actually help when needed and not get caught up by these reasoning when we saw someone in an emergency.

Final comment on the subject – food for thought.

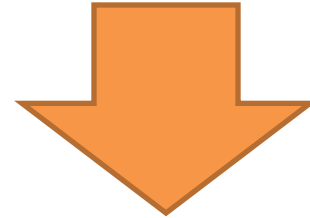
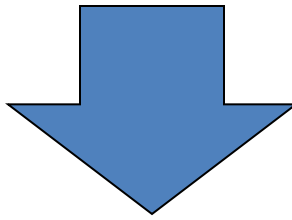
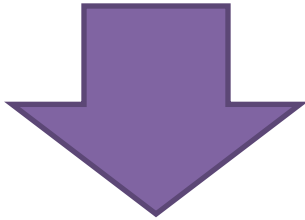


Post-Writing Stage

1. Revise
2. Proofread
3. Rewrite

Post-Writing Stage: Revise

After writing the first draft, revise.

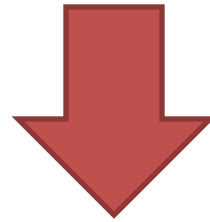


Content, organization, unity, coherence, logic:

1. Get a general overview
2. Achieve stated purpose?
3. Logic and coherent?
4. Topic sentence?
5. Unity?
6. Enough supporting details?
7. Transition signals
8. Concluding sentence?

Post-Writing Stage: Proofread

Check grammar, sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation.



1. No fragments, no choppy or run-on sentence.
2. SVA and tense.
3. Mechanics – punctuation, spelling, capitalization, typing errors.
4. Vocabulary

References

Oshima, A. & Hogue, A. (1999). Writing Academic English (3rd ed.). Longman: White Plains, NY.