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Drafting

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 Review your writing situation
- Opening: Introduce your topic and line of thinking
- 3 Middle: Develop and support your main points
- 4 Closing: Complete, clarify, and unify your message

- Think about the role
  - Role of the writer needs to be identified
    - Student, citizen, friend, member of a scholarly community
  - Voice that represents the role of the writer should be used

- Focus on the subject
  - Use the outline as a guide
  - Practice free writing, caring less about neatness and correctness
  - Include details until a logical stopping point is reached
  - Use a writing plan or any graphics produced
  - Finish a draft in one or two sittings
  - Use a natural voice

- Reconsider the purpose
  - Review the task that needs to be accomplished by the writing
  - Consider what the writing needs to convey and how
- Reconsider the audience
  - Identify the readers, along with their knowledge and attitude towards the topic

- Understand the form and context
  - Type of writing
  - Weight of the assignment
  - Assessment issues

# Things Accomplished by Opening Paragraph

- Ways to engage the reader
  - State lesser-known facts about the topic
  - Ask a challenging question
  - Present a thought-provoking quotation
  - Tell a brief, revealing story
- Establish a direction
  - Recognize the topic
  - Link the topic by displaying its importance
  - Acknowledge views of other people

# Things Accomplished by Opening Paragraph

- State the point
  - Narrow the focus
  - Raise a question
  - State the thesis

# **Weak Opening**

- Lacks details of interest
- Fails to establish a clear focus for the essay
- Inability to hint at a central issue
- Fails to present a compelling case for the readers to continue reading

# **Strong Opening**

- Gains readers' attention
- Describes the subject
- Provides background information
- Poses a question leading to a statement of the thesis

- Ways to advance the thesis
  - Explain Give facts, details, and examples
  - Narrate Share a story to explain an idea
  - Describe Give details about how something works
  - Define Identify the meaning of a idea
  - Analyze Examine the parts for better understanding
  - Compare Provide examples

- Argue Use logic and evidence to prove the facts
- Reflect Express thoughts
- Cite authorities Add expert analysis
- Ways of testing the ideas
  - Pose questions
  - Consider alternatives
  - Answer objections

- Build a structure
  - Design paragraphs which develop and improve the thesis clearly and logically
- Arrange supporting details
  - Definition Provides a term's denotation and connotation
  - Illustration Supports an idea with reasons, facts, and details
  - Analogy Comparison used to explain a complex phenomenon
  - Narration Used to relate an anecdote

- Cause and effect Shows how events are linked to their results
- Process
- Chronological order Presents steps in a process
- Classification Places subject in its appropriate category
- Climax Method to present details and provide the conclusion drawn
- Compare-contrast Used to show how two or more subjects are same and different

# Closing

- Reassert the main point
  - Remind the reader
  - Rephrase the thesis
- Strategies to gain the reader's acceptance
  - Show the implications
  - Project where the topic goes or leads
  - List the benefits
- Complete and unify the message
  - Involves advancing the purpose and thesis



- Main objective of drafting is to get ideas down
  - Improving the writing can be done later
- Chapter provides information and advice about creating and arranging information
  - Opening
  - Middle
  - Closing

