Dale 1101

Fall 2012

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|  | **Writing Sample: Finding out where you are as a writer** |

I believe that **writing is a process**, that everyone has the capacity to write, and that writing can be taught. Some people produce texts easily, while others labor hard as writers. The writing sample assignment is intended to show me who you are as a student and as a writer. I will review your writing in an effort to determine a plan for helping you strengthen your writing skills. Reviewing these writing samples will also help me to adjust the curriculum to your needs.

There is no length requirement, but make sure that your essay is complete and successful in answering the prompt.Pleaseinclude your name, and date on the first page before you turn in your paper*.*

**You probably want to TYPE YOUR WRITING SAMPLE.** If so, please use **12 pt font**.

If you are handwriting your essay, please write as legible as possible. What you have to say is important and therefore I’d like to be able to read it. Don’t forget to include your name and date so I know who you are.

Please write an essay on one of the following general topics. Make sure that your essay includes a beginning, middle, and end. The questions I ask are intended to **start** your thinking process(es). They are not intended as an outline for your essay.

* **Option 1: Writing.** What is your previous writing experience? What do you consider the hardest part of writing an essay? What are some of your weaknesses as a writer? What comes easily to you about writing? Is there a certain kind of writing that you are most comfortable with?
* **Option 2: Grocery Shopping.** Describe an ordinary grocery shopping experience. What is your routine? Where do you shop? What do you buy? Why do you buy these items? How do you move through the store? Is your shopping trip routine or chaotic?
* **Option 3: Strange Occurrences.** What is strangest or most interesting thing that’s ever happened to you? Have you ever had an event happen that changed your life and/or that makes for a great story to tell? Describe what happened. Who was there? How old were you? In what context did the event occur?

**Your writing sample is due in class THURSDAY, August 16th.**