

WRITING ASSIGNMENT 2



Write a paragraph about one of the following processes. For this assignment, you will be working with more general topics than those in Writing Assignment 1. In fact, many of the topics are so broad that entire books have been written about them. A big part of your task, then, will be to narrow the topic down enough so that it can be covered in one paragraph. Then you'll have to invent your own steps for the process. In addition, you'll need to make decisions about how many steps to include and the order in which to present them.

- How to break a bad habit such as smoking, overeating, or excess drinking
- How to improve a course you have taken
- How to help someone you know to feel happy
- How to be less concerned about yourself and more concerned about others
- How to improve the place where you work
- How to show appreciation to others
- How to get someone to forgive you
- How to be more "green"
- How to make your life less hectic
- How to be a good parent
- How to fail at something (the paragraph written on this topic is intended to be funny)
- How to flirt

PREWRITING

- a. Choose a topic that appeals to you. Then ask yourself, "How can I make this broad, general topic narrow enough to be covered in a paragraph?" A logical way to proceed would be to think of a particular time you have gone through this process. For instance, if the general topic is "How to decorate economically," you might think about a time you decorated your own apartment.
- b. Write a topic sentence about the process you are going to describe. Your topic sentence should clearly reflect the narrowed-down topic you have chosen. If you chose the topic described in step *a*, for example, your topic sentence could be "I made my first apartment look nice without spending a fortune."
- c. Make a list of as many different items as you can think of that concern your topic. Don't worry about repeating yourself, about putting the items in order, about whether details are major or minor, or about spelling. Simply make a list of everything about your topic that occurs to you.