

## WRITING CENTER

### Web Resources for Non-Native and Bilingual English Speakers

#### Understanding American Rhetorical Conventions

##### Writing for an American Audience

###### Purdue Online Writing Lab

- Web Address: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/683/01/>

American audiences have very distinctive ideas about how essays should be written. These rhetorical expectations often conflict with what many international students were taught. To ensure that your paper satisfies an American audience's expectations, investigate this resource.

##### The Writing Process

###### Harvard Writing Center

- Web Address: <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~wricntr/resources.html>

There are many steps writers have to take before completing a paper. These steps range from taking the time to understand the assignment to knowing how to effectively revise a paper. Because successful writing hinges on the completion of these steps, use this resource to help guide you through the writing process.

##### Constructing an Effective Argument

###### University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Writing Center

- Web Address: <http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/argument.html>

Many assignments will ask you to write an argumentative essay. Such essays demand that you know how to develop an arguable claim, back it up with credible evidence, and thoughtfully consider counterarguments. This resource will help you to perform these rhetorical moves.

##### Understanding the Components of an Argumentative Paper

###### Dartmouth's Institute for Writing and Rhetoric

- Web Address: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/materials/student/special/esl.html>

There are many different components to an argumentative paper, such as an arguable thesis statement and well-organized and focused body paragraphs geared around distinctive claims. To check that your paper will have all the right components, look at this resource.

## How to Write a Discipline-Specific Essay

### Duke University's Writing Studio

- Web Address: <http://uwp.duke.edu/wstudio/resources/disciplines.html>

While knowing how to write an argumentative paper is crucial, sometimes it is not enough. This is because each discipline within the university has a specific way of writing. For instance, the writing expected of literature students is different from that of psychology students. If you are new to a discipline and are about to write an essay, then review this resource for guidance.

## Conducting Research and Formatting your Essay

### Purdue Online Writing Lab

- Web Address: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/>

In many advanced classes, you will be asked to complete research-driven essays. Also, you will be expected to format your essay according to the style used by the class you are in. Because knowing how to effectively research and properly format essays is important for writing across disciplines, this resource is particularly useful.

## Grammar Assistance

### Tip Sheets

### Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)

- Web Address: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/678/01/>

The OWL provides students with informative and easy-to-understand tip sheets that cover all aspects of sentence-level mechanics—everything from articles to verb tenses. In addition, it supplements explanations with numerous examples, allowing you to see a rule in action.

### University of Ottawa Writing Centre

- Web Address: <http://www.writingcentre.uottawa.ca/hypergrammar/grammar.html>

The University of Ottawa is a good complement to the OWL. While OWL breaks down the different parts of a sentence, this resource helps you take that knowledge and see not only how to construct grammatically correct phrases, clauses and sentences, but also how to build paragraphs.

### Georgia South University Writing Center

- Web Address: <http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/writingc/handouts.htm>

This resource overlaps with the above two resources, covering many of the same grammatical concepts. However, you will find this resource helpful if you want to work on style and usage as it explains such ideas as wordiness, diction, and parallelism.

## Exercises

### Ohio University Department of Linguistics

- Web Address: <http://www.ohio.edu/linguistics/esl/grammar/activities.html>

Ohio University has compiled a number of external websites that provide students opportunities to test themselves on grammar with interactive exercises that provide immediate feedback.

Particularly useful is its link to the University of Victoria Study Center which provides exercises that cover everything from basic to advanced grammar.

### A Writer's Reference by Diana Hacker

- Web Address: <http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/writersref6e/Player/Pages/Main.aspx>

While covering general grammatical concepts, A Writer's Reference also provides help tailored to the needs of non-native and bilingual speakers. In addition to providing quizzes, you will also find worksheets that will help you keep track of your errors. The only downside of this resource is that the quizzes do not provide immediate feedback.

### Genesee Valley Center Writing Program

- Web Address:  
[http://www.esc.edu/ESOnline/Across\\_ESC/WritingResourceCenter.nsf/wholeshortlinks2/Grammar&Punctuation](http://www.esc.edu/ESOnline/Across_ESC/WritingResourceCenter.nsf/wholeshortlinks2/Grammar&Punctuation)

Genesee Valley provides an exhaustive list of grammatical exercises, covering many sentence level concepts like noun-verb agreement. However, it goes beyond the above two resources and covers issues related to punctuation, such as using semi-colons correctly. Exercises are interactive, too, providing you with feedback with every answer.