

Reflections on and Goals for Writing

Take a look through this list of writing skills and then answer the reflection questions.

Summarizing sources
Paraphrasing sources
Selecting and deploying textual evidence
Integrating quotations effectively into my own prose
Making an original claim
Developing a nuanced argument
Using topic sentences to help guide the reader through the argument
Making effective transitions between points
Making an argument that includes contextual analysis (e.g. structural, historical, ideological, theoretical in some way)
Anticipating and handling objections to my argument
Offering a detailed analysis of a written or media text (“close reading”)
Connecting my close analysis and my larger argument
Maintaining focus and cohesiveness
Writing with a sense of an audience
Writing with an authoritative, distinctive voice—an engaging persona—that feels like me
Writing with flow and a sense of cadence
Setting the stage in an introduction
Writing a satisfying conclusion
Writing without grammatical errors
Consciously employing grammatical parallelism, perhaps tricolons, or other rhetorical devices to reinforce my claims
Using an extensive, sometimes discipline-specific, range of vocabulary with confidence
Incorporating intertextual references
Employing figurative language to good effect
Using humor if and when appropriate

What are your strengths as a writer?

What will make your writing improve? (Think of actions you can take, resources at your disposal...)

How do you envision yourself as a writer in the future?