Introduction to On-demand Writing
On-Demand Writing Prompts

In each prompt, look for the following (TAP):

- **TASK**: The type of writing you are asked to do: letter, feature article, editorial, or speech.
- **AUDIENCE**: The person (people) you are pretending to write to for the prompt.
- **PURPOSE**: The reason you are writing: to argue, to narrate an event, and to inform.
The "T" in TAP

**Task:** The format of the piece of writing

Look **IN** the writing task for the task: letter, feature article, editorial, or speech

Follow the **format:**

* **Letter** has date/return address, a greeting, body, 5 paragraph essay format.

* **All other tasks** have titles, leads, bodies, conclusions (5 paragraph essay format)
The “A” in TAP

**Audience** (the person, or people, to whom you are writing)

* Look in the writing task for the audience.
* It might be an individual or a group.
* You write to an audience for reasons stated in the prompt.
* Consider what the audience needs to know, wants to know, and already knows.
* Imagine what questions they will have for you. ANSWER THEM in your writing.
Purpose: *reason* you are writing

Look for **ONE** of these in the writing task:

- **To argue**: writer states a clear position and presents evidence to support this position

- **To narrate an event**: writer uses one event to engage the reader for another purpose (argue/inform); narration is a method of idea development of topic

- **To inform or respond**: writer presents information that can help readers understand something relevant to their lives and experiences
Need to Know...

- You only have **45 minutes** to TAP, pre-write, and begin writing with revisions/editing.
- **NO outside help** with your writing.
- ONLY use **dictionary/thesaurus/YOUR brain**.
- **“Fiction”** is encouraged!
- **UNLIMITED** amount of **space** to write.
- Choose between **2 writing prompts**.
- **Handwritten**, not typed.
Use 5 Paragraph Essay Format

ESSAY

5 paragraph
Introduction- -Paragraph 1

- Should have an **engaging lead**: introductory technique (see examples on hieroglyphic model)
- Start **broad** and **narrow** down topic
- Should include:
  - **Background information on topic**
  - **Thesis statement**
Thesis Statement?

- Indicates your paper’s **topic**
- Identifies **your position/stance** on the topic—your opinion in sentence form
- Provides an **overview** of the 3 main supporting points that will unify (pull together) the essay
- Usually the **last sentence** in the introduction
Body Paragraph #1

- Begins with a **transition phrase** and topic sentence that **identifies the main idea**
- Ends with a **transition sentence**
- Has at least **3 supporting details** (methods of elaboration):
  - Statement/examples
  - Reasons
  - Evidence
Transition Sentence?

- Usually found at the end of a body paragraph
- Makes a clear connection from one paragraph to the other
- Uses transition words or phrases
- Is logical
- Develops coherence in the essay
### Common Transition Words and Transition Phrases

- **First**
- **First of all**
- **Second**
- **Secondly**
- **Third**
- **Next**
- **Then**
- **Afterwards**
- **In the morning**
- **In the evening**
- **In addition**
- **The first reason**
- **The second reason**
- **In conclusion**
- **Therefore**
- **At last**
Body Paragraph #3

- **Begins** with a *transition word* or *phrase* and a *topic sentence* that identifies the main idea.
- All of the sentences are on the **SAME TOPIC**.
- **Ends** with a *transition sentence*.
- Has at least **3** supporting details:
  - **Statements/examples**
  - **Reasons**
  - **Evidence**
Body Paragraph #4

- Begins with a transition word or phrase and a topic sentence that identifies the main idea.
- All of the sentences are on the SAME TOPIC.
- Has at least 3 supporting details:
  - Statements/examples
  - Reasons
  - Evidence
Conclusion- Paragraph 5

- **Restates** the **thesis statement** in different words (paraphrase)
- **Reiterates** the **3 main ideas** from the body paragraphs
- **Conclusion technique** (see examples on hieroglyphic model)
- **DO NOT repeat** the same wording used in other parts of the essay