

THE WRITING PROCESS



While no two writers complete the process in the same way, the following shows a general representation of the steps involved in the writing process, which may assist you in producing a better final product. These steps are usually pre-writing, researching, drafting, revising and editing, and formatting and citing. Remember that the Writing Center can help you with any step in the process.

PREWRITING

Decide on a topic. Use brainstorming techniques such as freewriting, clustering, or outlining to come up with potential ideas to write about.

RESEARCHING (IF REQUIRED)

Conduct scholarly research using library resources like the databases, books, encyclopedias, or interviews. Make sure to record bibliographic information you will need for citing later.

DRAFTING

Create a thesis statement with your main idea. Begin crafting sentences and paragraphs using the ideas you brainstormed and research collected. Remember not to plagiarize and be sure to cite your sources when you use them.

DRAFTING AND REVISING

Make sure your thesis is clear; that you've offered enough supporting evidence, and cited it; and if your paragraphs are organized into a logical order. Make corrections as needed. Then look for and make corrections in word choice, grammar, and punctuation.

FORMATTING AND CITING

Make sure you are using the correct format and citation style as required by your instructor. Make sure your sources are cited both in-text and on your reference page. Also check for things such as margin width, font size, and appropriate headers.

References

University of Kansas. "The Writing Process." *KU Writing Center*, 2023, writing.ku.edu/writing-process.

University of Lynchburg. "The Writing Process." *Wilmer Writing Center Online Writing Lab*, n.d. lynchburg.edu/academics/writing-center/wilmer-writing-center-online-writing-lab/the-writing-process/