

MyReadinessTest® for English & Mathematics

Writing Content Library – Topics & Objectives

Module 1) Basic Grammar

Topic: 1.1: Parts of Speech, Phrases, Clauses

1. Identify how different parts of speech function in sentences.
2. Identify how different types of phrases and clauses function in sentences.
3. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.2: Subjects and Verbs

1. Identify simple subjects.
2. Identify compound subjects.
3. Identify the understood or implied "you" as a subject.
4. Identify complete verbs.
5. Identify compound verbs.
6. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.3: Nouns

1. Identify nouns.
2. Differentiate between common nouns and proper nouns.
3. Differentiate between regular and irregular singular nouns and regular and irregular plural nouns.
4. Differentiate between count and noncount nouns.
5. Identify the correct use of determiners with nouns.
6. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.4: Pronouns

1. Identify pronouns and their antecedents.
2. Identify objective and subjective pronouns.
3. Identify possessive pronouns.
4. Identify reflexive pronouns.
5. Identify relative pronouns.
6. Identify demonstrative pronouns.
7. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.5: Articles

1. Identify the correct use of definite and indefinite articles.
2. Use the articles "a" and "an" correctly.
3. Use the article "the" correctly.
4. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.6: Verbs

1. Identify how verbs function in sentences.
2. Identify verb tenses and helping verbs.
3. Identify subject-verb agreement.
4. Identify infinitives and gerunds.
5. Identify participles, participial phrases, misplaced participles, and dangling participles.
6. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.7: Tense

1. Identify the correct use of the present tense.
2. Identify the correct use of the past tense.
3. Identify the correct use of the present perfect tense.
4. Identify the correct use of the past perfect tense.
5. Identify the correct use of the present progressive tense.
6. Identify the correct use of the past progressive tense.
7. Identify the correct use of the present perfect progressive tense.
8. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.8: Regular and Irregular Verbs

1. Differentiate between regular verbs and irregular verbs.
2. Identify the past tense of irregular verbs.
3. Identify the past perfect tense of irregular verbs.
4. Identify correct forms of "be".
5. Identify correct forms of "do".
6. Identify correct forms of "lie" versus "lay" and "sit" versus "set".
7. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.9: Modifiers

1. Identify the parts of speech that adjectives and adverbs modify.
2. Identify adjectives.
3. Identify adverbs.
4. Identify the correct use, placement, and order of adjectives and adverbs.
5. Use commas to separate coordinate adjectives.
6. Identify the correct use of comparative and superlative adjectives.
7. Identify the correct use of demonstrative and indefinite adjectives.
8. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.10: Adjectives and Adverbs:

1. Identify the positive, comparative, and superlative form of an adjective.
2. Identify the positive, comparative, and superlative form of an adverb.
3. Identify adjectives that cannot be modified.
4. Use adjectives after linking verbs; use adverbs to modify verbs, adjectives, and adverbs.
5. Avoid double negatives.
6. Identify when to use "good" versus "well" and "bad" versus "badly."
7. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 1.11: Prepositions

1. Demonstrate understanding of how prepositions function in sentences.
2. Identify simple and compound prepositions.
3. Identify the correct prepositions to use with certain words, phrases, or expressions.
4. Identify prepositional phrases.
5. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Module 2) Sentence Skills

Topic: 2.1: Sentence Structure

1. Identify the elements of a complete sentence.
2. Identify four sentence types by purpose: declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory.
3. Identify how to turn a declarative sentence into an interrogative sentence.
4. Identify four sentence types by structure: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex.
5. Combine sentences to create different sentence structures.
6. Use coordinating conjunctions to combine independent clauses in compound sentences.
7. Use subordinating conjunctions in complex and compound-complex sentences.
8. Punctuate different types of sentences correctly.
9. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.2: Fragments

1. Avoid "-ing" fragments.
2. Avoid "to" phrase fragments.
3. Avoid dependent clause fragments.
4. Avoid afterthought fragments.
5. Avoid relative clause/missing subject fragments.
6. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.3: Run-Ons

1. Identify a comma splice.
2. Identify a fused sentence.

3. Recognize two complete sentences can be joined with a comma and coordinating conjunction.
4. Recognize two complete sentences joined using a semicolon.
5. Identify two complete sentences joined by turning one sentence into a dependent clause.
6. Correct run-ons by using a period between two complete sentences.
7. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.4: Subject-Verb Agreement

1. Explain how singular and plural verbs agree with their subjects.
2. Avoid agreement with words that come between the subject and the verb.
3. Explain that a verb agrees with the subject even when the verb comes before the subject.
4. Maintain agreement when joining a compound subject with "and."
5. Maintain agreement when joining a compound subject with "or" or "nor."
6. Identify which singular and plural indefinite pronouns require singular or plural verbs.
7. Identify when a collective noun (e.g. family) requires a singular verb.
8. Maintain agreement when subordinate clauses begin with "who," "which," or "that."
9. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.5: Consistent Verb Tense, Active Voice

1. Use the present tense correctly.
2. Use the past tense correctly.
3. Use the present perfect tense correctly.
4. Use the future tense correctly.
5. Use the active voice instead of the passive voice.
6. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.6: Pronoun Case

1. Use the correct form of pronouns that function as subjects.
2. Use the correct form of pronouns that function as objects.
3. Use possessive pronouns correctly.
4. Use the demonstrative pronouns "this" and "these" correctly.
5. Use the correct form of pronouns in comparisons with "than" or "as".
6. Use the correct form of pronouns when "we" or "us" comes before a noun.
7. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.7: Pronoun Reference, Point of View

1. Identify which pronouns must refer to a specific antecedent.
2. Indicate that a pronoun agrees in number with its antecedent.
3. Maintain a consistent point of view with pronouns.
4. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.8: Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement

1. Maintain agreement when using pronouns with singular and plural antecedents.
2. Maintain agreement when using pronouns with indefinite antecedents.
3. Maintain agreement between pronouns, verbs, and compound antecedents joined by "or" or "nor."
4. Do not make pronouns agree with words between the pronoun and antecedent.
5. Avoid using sexist pronouns.
6. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.9: Misplaced or Dangling Modifiers

1. Avoid using dangling modifiers.
2. Avoid using misplaced modifiers.
3. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.10: Parallelism

1. Use the same grammatical form for all the elements in a series.
2. Express parallel or contrasting ideas presented as pairs using the same grammatical form.
3. Repeat words when necessary to create parallel structure in a series or pair.
4. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.11: Combining Sentences

1. Identify independent clauses.
2. Identify dependent clauses.

3. Identify coordinating conjunctions.
4. Identify subordinating conjunctions.
5. Identify relative pronouns.
6. Identify simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences.
7. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 2.12: Transitions

1. Identify different types of transitional words and expressions.
2. Use transitions to forecast which main points will follow.
3. Use transitions to signal a shift from one idea to another.
4. Use transitions to show how ideas are connected and how ideas are subordinated.
5. Recognize transitions used with different patterns of organization.
6. Write using transitions.

Module 3) Punctuation, Mechanics, and Spelling

Topic: 3.1: Commas

1. Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction that joins two independent clauses.
2. Use commas between the items in a series as well as with city and state names.
3. Use a comma after introductory phrases and clauses.
4. Use a comma between coordinate adjectives but not between cumulative adjectives.
5. Use commas to set off nonrestrictive clauses, phrases, and appositives.
6. Use commas to set off transitional and parenthetical expressions.
7. Use commas to set off dialogue tags and names used in direct address.
8. Avoid unnecessary commas.
9. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 3.2: Final Punctuation

1. Use periods correctly in complete declarative sentences and indirect questions.
2. Use a period correctly in abbreviations.
3. Use exclamation points for strong commands or exclamations.
4. Use a question mark at the end of a direct question.
5. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 3.3: Quotation Marks

1. Use quotation marks correctly around direct quotations.
2. Indicate whether quotation marks should be used around indirect quotations.
3. Use quotation marks around the titles of short works.
4. Use other punctuation correctly with quotation marks.
5. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 3.4: Other Punctuation

1. Identify the correct use of dashes.
2. Identify the correct use of colons.
3. Identify the correct use of semicolons.
4. Identify the correct use of parentheses.
5. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 3.5: Apostrophes

1. Identify the correct use of apostrophes with contractions.
2. Identify the correct use of apostrophes with possessive nouns.
3. Differentiate between possessive nouns and plural nouns.
4. Avoid using apostrophes with possessive pronouns.
5. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 3.6: Abbreviations and Numbers

1. Identify the correct use of standard abbreviations (e.g., Mr. Mrs. Ms, Dr., TV, CIA).
2. Identify the correct use of numbers and numerals.
3. Identify the correct use of numbers for dates and time of day.
4. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 3.7: Capitalization

1. Identify the correct use of capitalization for proper nouns.
2. Identify the correct use of capitalization with brand names.
3. Identify the correct use of capitalization in the first word of a sentence or quotation.

4. Identify the correct use of capitalization with the titles of literary works and songs.
5. Identify the correct use of capitalization with titles before names.
6. Identify the correct use of capitalization with days of the week, months, and holidays.
7. Identify the correct use of capitalization with geographic regions.
8. Understand whether to use capitalization for general places, occupations, and academic subjects.
9. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 3.8: Spelling

1. Identify correct spellings and common spelling rules (e.g., prefixes and suffixes).
2. Identify the correct spelling of commonly misspelled words.
3. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Module 4) Usage and Style

Topic: 4.1: Standard and Nonstandard English

1. Differentiate between Standard and Nonstandard English for formal and informal writing.
2. Identify style and tone in writing.
3. Identify the rhetorical function and purpose of style and tone.
4. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 4.2: Easily Confused Words

1. Identify the correct use of homophones.
2. Identify the correct use of confusing word pairs.
3. Identify the correct use of commonly confused past and present verb tenses.
4. Identify adjectives and adverbs that are often used incorrectly.
5. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic: 4.3: Varying Sentence Structure

1. Vary sentences by adding introductory words or phrases, reordering words, or changing purpose.
2. Combine sentences and use subordination for rhetorical effectiveness.
3. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic 4.4: Using Exact Language

1. Avoid redundancy.
2. Identify metaphor and analogy.
3. Identify the rhetorical purpose and function of metaphor and analogy.
4. Apply knowledge of this topic within the context of a paragraph.

Topic 4.5: Vocabulary Development

1. Use the dictionary to find word meanings, pronunciations, parts of speech, and word origins.
2. Use context clues to determine the meaning and spelling of an unfamiliar word.
3. Use synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms to determine meaning and spelling.
4. Use common prefixes and suffixes to determine a word's meaning.
5. Use root words to determine meaning.
6. Write and read to demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary and vocabulary-building strategies.

Topic 4.6: Biased and Sexist Language

1. Identify and avoid bias
2. Identify which pronoun(s) should refer to a person whose gender is not known.
3. Identify whether a word or sentence contains bias in sexual orientation, age, gender, or ethnicity.

Topic 4.7: Biased and Sexist Language

1. Identify redundancy.
2. Identify unneeded words and wordy phrases.
3. Eliminate redundancy by recognizing words with similar meanings.
4. Eliminate wordiness by simplifying modifier clauses.
5. Simplify grammatical constructions.

Topic 4.8: Unnecessary Shifts

1. Identify shifts in point of view.
2. Correct shifts in point of view.
3. Understand how to maintain a consistent point of view.

Module 5) The Craft of Writing

Topic: 5.1: Getting Started

1. Identify the role of a personal writing ritual in the writing process.
2. Identify the benefits of keeping a writing journal.
3. Identify the benefits of writing on a computer.
4. Identify techniques for overcoming obstacles to writing.
5. Combined objectives: Analyze ways of getting started on writing projects.

Topic: 5.2: The Writing Process

1. Identify the stages of the writing process.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the prewriting phase.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the drafting phase.
4. Demonstrate understanding of the revising phase.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the editing phase.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze the writing process.

Topic: 5.3: Prewriting

1. Identify the purpose of prewriting and practice freewriting.
2. Identify reading, taking notes, and keeping a journal as prewriting strategies.
3. Identify using the Internet as a prewriting strategy.
4. Identify brainstorming as a prewriting strategy.
5. Identify clustering as a prewriting strategy.
6. Identify questioning as a prewriting strategy.
7. Identify discussing as prewriting strategy.
8. Understand planning as a prewriting strategy.
9. Combined objectives: Analyze types of prewriting.

Topic: 5.4: Recognizing a Paragraph

1. Identify the elements of a paragraph.
2. Identify how details develop a paragraph.
3. Identify the purpose of the topic sentence of a paragraph.
4. Identify different methods for organizing a paragraph.
5. Combined objectives: Analyze a paragraph.

Topic: 5.5: The Topic Sentence

1. Identify the elements of the topic sentence of a paragraph.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between the topic sentence and supporting sentences.
3. Combined objectives: Analyze a paragraph's topic sentence and supporting sentences.

Topic: 5.6: Developing and Organizing a Paragraph

1. Describe the drafting phase.
2. Describe paragraph development.
3. Identify how concrete and sensory details plus examples develop a paragraph.
4. Identify paragraph organization.
5. Identify spatial order.
6. Identify importance order.
7. Identify time order.
8. Combined objectives: Analyze the way a paragraph is developed and organized.

Topic: 5.7: Revising the Paragraph

1. Identify the purpose of revising a paragraph for form and content.
2. Identify how to develop a revising checklist.
3. Explain peer review as a revision strategy.
4. Revise a paragraph for unity.
5. Indicate how to revise a paragraph's topic sentence and supporting details.
6. Indicate how to revise the organization of a paragraph.
7. Indicate how to revise a paragraph for coherence.
8. Combined objectives: Analyze strategies for revising a paragraph.

Topic: 5.8: Editing the Paragraph

1. Identify the editing phase and why it is important.
2. Identify editing strategies.
3. Identify how to edit sentences for grammar and usage errors.
4. Identify how to edit sentences for punctuation, mechanics, and spelling errors.
5. Identify proofreading strategies.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze strategies for editing a paragraph

Module 6) Paragraph Development

Topic: 6.1: Paragraphs: Describing

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a descriptive paragraph.
2. Identify the dominant impression of a descriptive paragraph.
3. Differentiate between showing and telling in a descriptive paragraph.
4. Identify the use of concrete and sensory details in a descriptive paragraph.
5. Identify spatial, general-to-specific, and specific-to-general organization.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a descriptive paragraph.

Topic: 6.2: Paragraphs: Narrating

1. Identify the purpose of a narrative paragraph.
2. Identify the purpose of the topic sentence of a narrative paragraph.
3. Identify questioning as a strategy for developing a narrative paragraph.
4. Identify the use of details and examples in a narrative paragraph.
5. Identify the use of chronological order and transitions in a narrative paragraph.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a narrative paragraph.

Topic: 6.3: Paragraphs: Illustrating

1. Identify the elements and purpose of an illustration paragraph.
2. Identify examples used in an illustration paragraph.
3. Indicate how concrete words illustrate by showing rather than telling.
4. Identify illustration paragraph organization (e.g., organizing by extremes).
5. Combined objectives: Analyze an illustration paragraph.

Topic: 6.4: Paragraphs: Process

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a process paragraph.
2. Identify good topics and strategies for writing a process paragraph.
3. Identify the topic sentence's purpose in a process paragraph.
4. Indicate chronological order and transitions in a process paragraph.
5. Indicate details and special terms in a process paragraph.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a process paragraph.

Topic: 6.5: Paragraphs: Compare/Contrast

1. Identify the purpose of a comparison-and-contrast paragraph.
2. Identify strategies for choosing items to compare and contrast (e.g., brainstorming).
3. Identify the topic sentence's purpose in a comparison-and-contrast paragraph.
4. Identify two methods for organizing a comparison-and-contrast paragraph.
5. Combined objectives: Analyze a comparison-and-contrast paragraph.

Topic: 6.6: Paragraphs: Division/Classification

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a division/classification paragraph.
2. Identify the connection between dividing and classifying.
3. Identify categories and common traits.
4. Identify the topic sentence's purpose in a division/classification paragraph.
5. Indicate organization and transitions when dividing and classifying.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a division/classification paragraph.

Topic: 6.7: Paragraphs: Definition

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a definition paragraph.
2. Distinguish objective and subjective definitions.
3. Identify three methods of definition.
4. Indicate concrete examples in a definition paragraph.
5. Identify logical organization in a definition paragraph.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a definition paragraph.

Topic: 6.8: Paragraphs: Cause/Effect

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a cause-and-effect paragraph.
2. Differentiate between coincidence and causation.
3. Identify the topic sentence's focus in a cause-and-effect paragraph.
4. Identify strategies for developing a cause-and-effect paragraph.
5. Identify the organization of a cause-and-effect paragraph.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a cause and effect paragraph.

Topic: 6.9: Paragraphs: Argument

1. Identify the purposes and benefits of an argument paragraph.
2. Choose a debatable topic and write a topic sentence for an argument paragraph.
3. Identify persuasive techniques and evidence that supports an argument paragraph.
4. Identify the importance of audience for an argument paragraph.
5. Identify ways to organize an argument paragraph.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze an argument paragraph.

Module 7) Essay Development

Topic 7.1: Recognizing the Essay

1. Identify an essay's features and purpose.
2. Identify the purpose of an essay's title, introduction, and conclusion.
3. Identify the purpose of an essay's thesis statement.
4. Identify the structure and purpose of an essay's body paragraphs.
5. Demonstrate recognition of an essay's appearance, format, and organization.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze an essay.

Topic 7.2: Thesis Statement

1. Identify the elements of an essay's thesis statement.
2. Identify the purpose and placement of the thesis statement.
3. Identify the relationship between the thesis statement and the body paragraphs.
4. Identify what makes a good thesis statement.
5. Indicate how body paragraphs with concrete details and examples support the thesis statement.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze thesis statements.

Topic 7.3: Essay Organization

1. Indicate that essays can be organized in different ways.
2. Identify general-to-specific and specific-to-general organization.
3. Identify chronological organization.
4. Identify spatial organization.
5. Identify organizing by extremes.
6. Identify transitions used with different patterns of organization.
7. Combined objectives: Analyze different patterns of essay organization.

Topic 7.4: Essay Introductions, Conclusions and Titles

1. Identify an essay's elements and structure.
2. Identify the purpose of an essay's introduction.
3. Identify techniques for writing and revising an effective introduction.
4. Identify the purpose of an essay's conclusion.
5. Identify techniques for writing an effective conclusion.
6. Identify the purpose of an essay's title.
7. Indicate how and when to write the title.
8. Combined objectives: Analyze essay introductions, conclusions, and titles.

Topic 7.5: Revising the Essay

1. Review the basic elements of the essay.
2. Identify the purpose of revising an essay.
3. Revise an essay's body paragraphs.
4. Revise an essay for unity.
5. Revise the organization of an essay.
6. Revise an essay for coherence.
7. Combined objectives: Analyze the basic elements of an essay.

Topic 7.6: Editing the Essay

1. Describe the editing phase and its importance.

2. Identify strategies for editing an essay.
3. Edit an essay for grammar and usage errors.
4. Edit an essay for punctuation, mechanics, and spelling errors.
5. Identify strategies for proofreading an essay.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze paragraphs, using editing and proofreading strategies.

Topic 7.7: Essays: Describing

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a descriptive essay.
2. Identify the function of a descriptive essay's dominant impression.
3. Describe the importance of using observation and sensory details to show rather than tell.
4. Differentiate between objective and subjective descriptions.
5. Identify spatial and other organizational patterns in a descriptive essay.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a descriptive essay.

Topic 7.8: Essays: Narrating

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a narrative essay.
2. Identify what makes a good topic for a narrative essay.
3. Identify questioning as a strategy for developing a narrative essay.
4. Identify the use of details in a narrative essay.
5. Identify chronological order and transitions in a narrative essay.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a narrative essay.

Topic 7.9: Essays: Illustrating

1. Identify the elements and purpose of an illustration essay.
2. Identify how to choose good examples for an illustration essay.
3. Identify the purpose of concrete examples in an illustration essay.
4. Identify real-world applications of illustration.
5. Identify ways to organize an illustration essay.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze an illustration essay.

Topic 7.10: Essays: Process

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a process essay.
2. Identify the best type of process for a given topic.
3. Identify the impact of audience and purpose on writing a process essay.
4. Identify strategies for writing a process essay.
5. Identify the purpose: thesis statement, introduction, body, conclusion.
6. Use chronological transitions for process essays.
7. Combined objectives: Analyze a process essay.

Topic 7.11: Essays: Compare/Contrast

1. Identify the purpose of a comparison-and-contrast essay.
2. Choose points of comparison for a comparison-and-contrast essay.
3. Use balanced details and examples to support the thesis statement.
4. Identify two methods of organizing a comparison-and-contrast essay.
5. Combined objectives: Analyze a comparison-and-contrast essay.

Topic 7.12: Essays: Division/Classification

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a division/classification essay.
2. Identify real-world applications of division and classification.
3. Identify the thesis statement's purpose in a division/classification essay.
4. Identify the use of details and examples to explain categories.
5. Identify organization and transitions in a division/classification essay.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a division/classification essay.

Topic 7.13: Essays: Definition

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a definition essay.
2. Differentiate between objective and subjective definitions.
3. Identify three methods of definition.
4. Identify the use of examples and description to support the thesis statement.
5. Identify logical organization in a definition essay.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a definition essay.

Topic 7.14: Essays: Cause and Effect

1. Identify the elements and purpose of a cause-and-effect essay.
2. Differentiate between coincidence and causation.

3. Identify the thesis statement's purpose in a cause-and-effect essay.
4. Identify the kinds of evidence used to develop a cause-and-effect essay.
5. Identify logical organization in a cause-and-effect essay.
6. Combined objectives: Analyze a cause-and-effect essay.

Topic 7.15: Essays: Argument

1. Identify the purpose of an argument essay.
2. Explain that an argument's thesis statement presents a debatable claim.
3. Indicate the importance of evidence to support a claim.
4. Differentiate between logical and emotional arguments.
5. Identify the impact of audience and use of persuasive techniques.
6. Identify ways to develop and organize an argument essay.
7. Combined objectives: Analyze an argument essay.

Module 8) Research

Topic 8.1: Research Process

1. Recognize a research paper.
2. Find and evaluate sources.
3. Use summarizing, paraphrasing, and quotation to avoid plagiarism.
4. Write a research paper.
5. Combined objectives: Analyze the research process.

Topic: 8.2: Summary Writing

1. Identify the elements of a summary.
2. Identify real-world applications of summarizing.
3. Identify good prewriting strategies for writing a summary.
4. Combined objectives: Analyze a summary.

Topic 8.3: Paraphrasing to Avoid Plagiarism

1. Identify the elements of a paraphrase.
2. Indicate how appropriate paraphrasing helps prevent plagiarism.
3. Identify when and how to paraphrase.
4. Identify how to incorporate paraphrases into a research paper.
5. Combined objectives: Analyze a paraphrase.

Topic 8.4: Critical Thinking: Texts/Visuals

1. Define criticism.
2. Identify and practice active reading strategies with written and visual texts.
3. Identify how features (diction, syntax, connotation) make meaning in written and visual texts.
4. Distinguish types of argument and evidence in written and visual texts.
5. Identify explicit and implicit messages, ideas, and arguments in written and visual texts.
6. Combined objectives: Evaluate the soundness and effectiveness of written and visual texts.