

Writing Skills Assessment

The following statements refer to effective writing skills and strategies. Please mark the rating that best reflects your *current* behavior for each item. Be as honest as you can in responding to these statements so that you can create a realistic picture of your writing process right now. Your strengths and areas for improvement will be more easily recognized if you are accurate and objective as you complete this assessment. An increase in your awareness of these behaviors can lead to more effective choices and enhanced success in learning.

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always
I can write using an academic style and tone.				
I can use accurate in-text citations using MLA or other citation style.				
I can effectively brainstorm to gather ideas before writing.				
I can take good notes on readings and then use them to help support my ideas.				
I can write an outline to logically organize my ideas before writing.				
I can identify problems in my writing and see what should be improved.				
I consider the task or assignment and instructions carefully before writing.				
I make a timetable for when I will do my writing.				
I try to write in a comfortable, quiet place where I can concentrate.				
I use my background knowledge to help me develop my ideas.				
I edit for content and/or organization as I am writing.				
I use references (dictionary, grammar book) to check things when I write.				
I go back to my writing to revise the content and improve organization.				
I go back to my writing to edit the grammar, vocabulary, and punctuation.				
I discuss my work with others to get feedback on how I can improve it.				
I visit the ASC's Writing Center to get feedback from a tutor or consultant.				
If I do not understand a feedback comment, I ask the person to explain it to me.				
I make notes on feedback so I can use it the next time I write.				
I record the types of errors I have made so I do not keep making them.				
I am confident about my ability to write.				

Writing is a process that involves multiple skills and strategies.
Importantly, these are skills that can be **learned** and **improved** with practice!

If you are a currently enrolled NOVA student and you would like to work with one of our consultants or tutors to improve your writing skills, please stop by the Writing Center in AA-234.
Our academic coaches can also help; you can make an appointment with them in AA-229.

Adapted from Marquette University:

<http://www.marquette.edu/oie/documents/ESLP82QuestionnaireFa08.pdf>