

## **English Language Learning (ELL) Reading eWriting**

for undergraduate students in the Faculty of Arts & Science, University of Toronto

<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell>

### **General directions:**

Spend approximately 30 minutes reading and 30 minutes writing for each of your 6 Reading eWritings. You may read popular, academic, or scholarly material for Reading eWriting. Go to <http://www.alldaily.com/> for links to a variety of interesting popular articles. There is also a list of links posted on the ELL website's Reading eWriting page:

<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell/reading-ewriting>

Alternatively, you may read your course material, which is a great way to stay motivated and to read for your classes in greater depth. You may also read any other book, magazine, or journal. For a list of popular Canadian literature, visit

<http://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/canadian-literature>

You will receive the name and email address of your instructor, and you should write directly to him or her. Write your message in the email box (no attachments, please), and use your UTOR email account. You should write about 150 – 300 words, though you may write more or less. Tell your instructor what you read, giving the title, author, and name of the publication. You may include the link if you wish.

### **Options for writing:**

You may do all 6 options, **or** select any combination of these options. If one option suits your needs better than the others you may repeat it. Try to be adventurous (e.g. if you're used to summarizing, try close reading). Option #6 allows you to enter into a general conversation with your instructor, which may prove to be very valuable.

**1. Previewing and Skimming: a Reflection.** Go to the Resources for Students page of the ELL site, and read the handouts on Previewing and Skimming and Scanning:

<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell/resources-for-students>

Then apply these techniques to a current course reading (or another text). After previewing and skimming, write a paragraph or two telling your instructor what you learned about the reading by using these methods. Following the previewing, if time permits, read all or part of the text carefully, and then write to your instructor about how your perception of it may have changed.

**2. Summary.** Go to the Resources for Students page of the ELL site, and read the handout on Summarizing: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell/resources-for-students>

Using the process on the handout, write a summary of your reading.

**3. Active Reading Response.** Go to the Resources for Students page of the ELL site, and read the handout on active reading: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell/resources-for-students>

Then, write an Active Reading Response to the reading. Try to address at least two of the following questions:

- What did you **learn**?
- What would you **predict** might appear later on in this reading?
- What else would you like **to know** about this subject? What might the author have explained further?
- Do you see any **flaws or inconsistencies** in what the author is saying?
- If the work is fiction, poetry or a creative essay, what **ideas** do you think the author is trying to **suggest**?

**4. Close Reading.** Go to the Resources for Students page of the ELL site, and read the handout on close reading: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell/resources-for-students> Then choose a particularly interesting, difficult, or ambiguous paragraph or passage in your reading. Consider some of the “12 aspects” on the close reading handout, and write an account of the results of your close reading process for your instructor.

**5. Revision of a previous Reading eWriting according to the instructor’s comments.** You may revise or expand on a previous message. (It’s OK if you send us a couple of paragraphs that might form part of an essay you’re working toward, though we cannot give feedback on a full essay).

**6. Questions about writing or responses to your instructor’s comments.** Write a message asking your instructor some general questions about academic reading or writing. Tell your instructor about any difficulties you’ve encountered in reading or writing in English. You may also want to respond to comments the instructor has made about your writing. (This option does not require reading).

If you need a brief extension on one of the due dates, please let your instructor know ahead of time. If you have any other questions, contact your instructor or ELL at [ell.newcollege@utoronto.ca](mailto:ell.newcollege@utoronto.ca)