

Low-Stakes Assignment I: My Theory of Writing (15 points)

What is writing? What does writing do? What are the most important aspects of writing? How does one approach a new writing project? What role do revision and research play in successful writing? These questions, as well as many others, can help us to understand writing both inside and outside an academic context.

For this assignment, you'll begin to compile your own Theory of Writing based on your current beliefs and educational background. Here are some questions that might help to guide your thinking:

- What do you consider effective writing?
- What are some key terms that are important to you when thinking about and discussing writing?
- How have your experiences shaped your perspective on writing?
- What rules do you think are important for writers to understand?
- What are some of the things you consider when you are tasked with a new or unfamiliar writing project?
- What is something you wish all writing teachers, or teachers in general, knew about writing?
- What is your relationship to writing?

Your Task:

In a 2-3 page essay, discuss your experiences with writing and writing instruction. This is not an academic essay and should not be treated as such. Instead, I want to hear about YOUR thoughts and YOUR experiences. Therefore, it is important this assignment be written in your voice. You may write informally. If it helps, pretend you are writing to a close friend or family member.

Additional Considerations:

- **DO NOT WRITE A 5-PARAGRAPH or HAMBURGER ESSAY.**
- **DO NOT JUST COPY THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWER AS THOUGH THIS ASSIGNMENT WERE A SURVEY**
- You may revise this theory as many times as you wish for the two weeks directly following grading.
- Essays should be typed, double-spaced, and formatted using 12-point font (Times New Roman, Calibri, etc) with 1" margins