



# Stretch the usefulness of writing with HIPs!

**Writing exercise:** What comes to your mind when you think of a writing assignment? Write down as many words, phrases, assignments, etc. that you can think of in one minute.

*Believe it or not, this one-minute writing exercise is just one example of a writing activity that can be high-impact for learning.*



## What makes writing high-impact?

- Interactions between students and instructors, peers, writing tutors, or friends/family.
- Meaning-making (Anderson et al., 2016).
- Metacognition  
Teachers Guide to Reflection
- Sustained engagement (AAC&U, 2023).



**Keep reading for examples below!**





## Examples of High Impact Writing Elements

- **Meaning-making:** asking students to write an evaluation of a policy, practice, or position (Anderson et al., 2016).
- **Metacognition:** encouraging students to activate their prior knowledge, reflect on their own cognition, and engage in activities for personal growth (UCATT, Teacher's Guide to Reflection).
- **Sustained engagement:** having students work on writing over the course of a unit or semester, with opportunities for feedback-driven metacognition (Reynolds et al., 2020).



## How does UA's Gen Ed program promote high-impact writing?

The Writing Attribute focuses on promoting greater facility with written communication and helps students to:

- **Practice** writing as a process rather than a product.
- **Identify** previous writing experiences and transfer writing practices to different types of writing.
- **Define** disciplinary or field-specific writing expectations.

These writing activities give students experience interacting with others about writing, engage them in meaning-making, and help them practice sustained engagement with writing. Providing opportunities for feedback and reflection is essential.



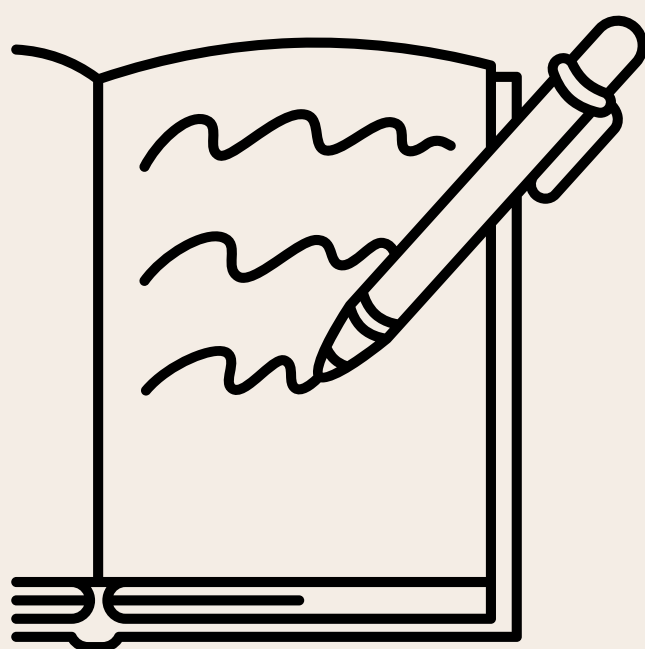


## How can instructors stretch the usefulness of writing with HIPs?

### Transferable assignment ideas:

Authentic writing tasks, including (but not limited to):

- Critiques
- Reflective personal narratives
- Annotated bibliographies
- Proposals
- Legal briefs
- Community reports



### Writing-to-learn:

- Minute-papers
- Think, pair, share
- Exit tickets
- Word association
- Writing a catch phrase to summarize a concept
- Creating an instagram post to advertise a product
- Summarizing a concept in 5 words or less
- And many more!

