

Mosaics Chap 11: Process Analysis

Using the Chapter 11 materials on process analysis in your *Mosaics* text as a guide, write a **3-4 page** description of a specific process – either a **“how-something-works”** essay OR a **“how-something-happened”** essay. You may use the sheet of suggested prompt subjects I have provided separately to help you choose your own topic as long as you follow the guidelines and models we have reviewed from Chapter 11 to help you structure your essay. If you wish, you may instead use the **Writing Prompt** in the middle of p 233 in your *Mosaics* text to help you create your own process analysis essay.

The task this time is to describe a particular process in a systematic, thorough and detailed manner. Make a single, important assertion about the process you are describing at the beginning of your essay – this statement will provide the focus, the *controlling explanation* that justifies and explains to us essentially what the process is. Then, provide a systematic list of steps that lay out in detail your chosen process. Remember to *show* your readers what you wish to illustrate rather than just telling them about it: use well-organized descriptions of steps in the process as well as lots of specific, illustrative examples in your body paragraphs to support your opening assertion about why we should be interested in your process.

Please Note: You *may* do outside research to help you develop material for this essay, but your words must be your own – *not* quotes from a manual or paraphrased descriptions from the Internet. Use your own language, and write about something you actually know a little about already. You may *not* write about yourself or about your own personal experiences though: no 1st person speech (I, me) should be in your essay although you may use 2nd person speech (you) this time, but only if you are delivering a detailed set of instructions directly to your audience for how to do something specific.

Otherwise, you should of course be using **academic language** – put verbs in the same tense, eliminate contractions and slang speech, and proofread your work slowly and repeatedly to ensure that your sentences are complete and correct.

Please follow the **detailed guidelines from Chapter 11 pp 234-236** that are briefly highlighted below. Remember to leave plenty of time for the prewriting and drafting stages as well as the revision and proofreading stages of your writing process. I want focused, error-free work.

1. **Express in the thesis statement what the reader should be able to do or understand by the end of the essay.**
2. **Know your audience – write a process description that is thorough and explicit. Assume your audience knows *nothing* about your process until you explain it.**
3. **Explain the process or event clearly in the body of your essay – use a sufficient number of instructions and details so that, by the end of your essay, your audience will understand precisely how your process works (either how-something works or how-something-happened)**
4. **Organize your material logically – either chronologically (by time) or sequentially (step by step). If a process or event is complicated, figure out the most logical organization for what you are explaining.**
5. **End your essay by considering the process or event as a whole: don't just stop after you have completed your explanation. Instead, look at the entire process or event and restate its significance in a creative, useful way that uses new language – Sum up the importance of the process for us, your audience.**