

Lesson 1.5: The Writing Process

Prewriting: Writing A First Draft

At some point, you have to stop gathering information and start writing a first draft. People take different approaches to drafting. Some write quickly, while others work more slowly and carefully. Some people work from rough notes, while others use a detailed outline. As you write your first draft, you might try one of these suggestions.

- ◆ Use your prewriting plans as a guide.
- ◆ Write freely, and focus on expressing your ideas clearly.
- ◆ You may discover new ideas as you are writing. Include these ideas in your draft.
- ◆ Don't worry about catching or correcting errors in grammar just yet, or in usage, or mechanics while you are drafting. You will be able to focus on these aspects of writing a little later inshaAllah.

Here is a sample first draft of a paragraph written on the silk industry. Notice how the writer has inserted questions and notes. They will remind the writer to return to prewriting to gather more information before the final draft is written. Also you will notice that the writing needs some polishing. The polishing comes later.

Example 1: The silk Industry

Silk is a natural fiber that is spun by the silkworm [Latin name?], as it spins it cocoon. Each silkworm cocoon is actually one single fiber. [How long?]. To harvest the silk, the cocoons are first washed and heated. They are unwound and several [how many] fibers are spun together to make a single thread. Then the thread is dyed. This process was discovered by the Chinese about 2600B.C. and For years, they kept the secret inside China. in fact a law prevented anyone from telling

Exercise 6: Writing a First Draft

Using what you've learned about arranging ideas in chronological order, draft a narrative about how to do some simple process. For example you might explain how to cover and decorate a textbook, or how to make wudhu. Just make sure it is a process that you know how to do.

Write your first draft in your notebook. Include specific details that will help the readers identify the steps you followed and in the order in which you performed them. When you have finished, present your first draft as a reading in class inshaAllah.

2 points/rewards