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Writing Center: Planning important

Dear Quill: Battle of the sexes rages on

FEATURES

WSSU
The Writing Center

Good planning is the first step in writing an essay

By Tammy Simmons
WRITING CENTER PEER TUTOR

What is the writing process? The writing process begins in thinking about a subject and ends only after proofreading the final draft. According to authors of Simon & Schuster: Handbook for Writers, Lynn Troyka and Douglas Hesse, "Writing is an ONGOING process of considering alternatives and making choices." They describe the following steps in the writing process:

Planning: Discover and compile ideas for writing.

Shaping: Organize material. Drafting: Write material into sentences and paragraphs.

Revising: Evaluate and rewrite by adding, deleting, rewording, and rearranging.

Editing: Check for correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and mechanics.

Proofreading: Read final copy to eliminate typing or handwriting errors.

Planning, the first step in the writing process begins with analysis. Choose a topic. Determine points and supporting details.

The following strategies may help generate topic ideas:

Idea log: Because good ideas can be forgotten as quickly as they come to mind,

CREDIT, from page 3

applicants showed that 78 percent of students had at least one credit card, 32 percent had four or more credit cards and 95 percent of graduate students carried cards.

Many employers pull credit reports, and landlords and mortgage lenders look unfavorably on late payments, no payments and default.

Before applying and after applying for a credit card, here are some helpful tips and hints to consider:

Student credit card aren't always the best way to go. As a student with a limited credit history, you're considered a credit risk, so although you may get the card, you will most likely have a

DISCOUNTS, from page 3

you need to relax, Inspired Day Salon, 4956 Monte Vista St., and the Sixth Sense Day Spa, 1012 Brookstown Ave., both offer 20 percent discounts on all services to students.

5. **Clothes:** Jeans, Fitted Hats, Handbags, Stilettos, Jordan's — everyone has to have them. Hanes Mall offers a multitude of student discounts from electronics to

write down thoughts and observations. This means having a conversation with oneself in writing.

Journal: Record thoughts about reading material, observations, and even dreams. Include reactions to movies or plays, responses to quotations, and reflections. A journal can assist productivity, observation and discovery, and be an excellent source of ideas for assignments.

Freewriting: When freewriting, write without stopping for several minutes. Write down whatever comes to mind, allowing the subconscious to explore thoughts.

Brainstorming: List thoughts about the topic, using words, phrases, or sentence fragments. Ask questions and look for ways to group the ideas.

Mapping: Mapping is a visual form of brainstorming using lines or diagrams.

Incubation: Incubation allows ideas to grow and develop. Sometimes writers need to distance from assignment.

Come to the Writing Center as soon as you get your assignment so we can help you through these first steps.

high interest rate.

Jobs that provide access to money, from fast-food cashiers to accountants to middle managers typically require credit checks. Know what your credit report says about you.

Always try to pay \$25-\$30 more than the minimum payment required to stay ahead of your credit card bills.

Be realistic about how much credit you can afford. A good measure is no more than 20 percent of your net income.

Information in this story was also contributed by KRT and author Sanyika Calloway Boyce, who travels nationwide to educate, empower, entertain and enlighten students about money, credit and debt. Go to www.collegestudentusa.com.

earrings. Another great store that lets ladies make the most of student discounts is Rainbow, which offers 10 percent off its clothes to students with an ID.

So there you have it, the best of cheap eats, clothes, hair care, etc. Take advantage of these discounts.

For more information on student discounts around Winston-Salem and the triad visit www.studentadvantagediscountcard.com

Prince of Virginia gives back to the black community

Boone: I read that you entered and won 20 talent shows. Is that how you got involved in the music industry?

Songz: The talent shows didn't really do much for me. I did that for fun. The way I got into the music game was when I met my producer Troy Taylor. How I met him is a long story. You know how somebody knows somebody that knows somebody that might know somebody. It was that type of thing.

Boone: Did your family encourage your pursuit of a career in music?

Songz: My family is always behind me.

Boone: Have you or do you plan to give back to the community where you are from?

Songz: I give back to my community everyday. Before people knew who I was, I had an annual basketball game that me and my boys Goodfellas Entertainment threw where we brought the best high-school players out, they play against each other and we have scouts come out and everything. We give some of the proceeds earned back to the school. I've done a benefit concert with that I pay for and we take about \$10,000 and give it to the school. Whenever I'm home, I ride around, go the recreational center and just buy all the kids some ice cream. I always try to find a way to give back.

Boone: What would you be doing now if you weren't involved in music?

Songz: If I wasn't in music, I don't know what I'd be doing. As soon as I figured out that's what I was gonna do, I knew that's what I was gonna do.

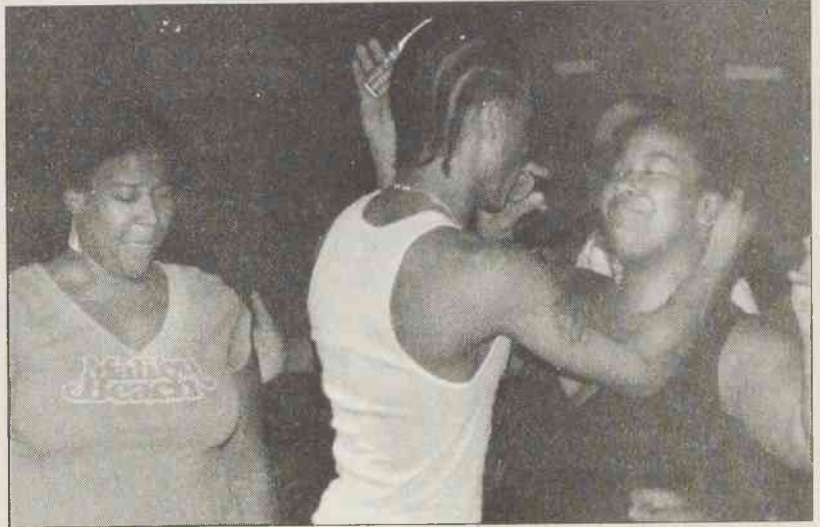


Photo by Garrett Garms

Junior Amber Neal watches Trey Songz serenade her twin sister Ashley Neal during his performance Sept. 24.

Boone: What would you like to accomplish outside of the music industry?

Songz: Just to be happy, never let this thing take control of me, just stay the same person I am no matter what and take care of my family.

Boone: What are your hobbies?

Songz: I like to chill with my family. I don't really (have) hobbies. I like to bowl, I like to draw, you know, whatever's fun. In my down time and I don't really get a lot of down time, I like to chill with my folk.

Boone: Who are the artists you feel have influenced you the most?

Songz: (The music artist) that has influenced me the most is R. Kelly. Outside of him, there are a lot of artists that my producer introduced me to that I knew nothing about when I started doing music. He put me on to stuff like the Isley Brothers, Prince, the Supremes, Aretha Franklin...people that I didn't know about, you know, being a young dude.

Boone: Do you draw from those influences and personal experiences when writing lyrics?

Songz: Those influences, as well

as the life I lead, as well as the stuff I've seen, as well as what my friends and people around me experience influence my lyrical content.

Boone: Will your lyrical content change on your next album?

Songz: My lyrical content changes everyday. I write songs. That's what I do in my pastime. It changes every song I do. On my album, you'll see songs like 'From a Woman's Hand' or 'Gotta Make It.' I want to do a lot more songs like that, but coming into the game, right now I'm kinda sorta playing by the rules.

Boone: Did you choose to tour HBCUs, or was that an executive decision?

Songz: (The idea to tour HBCUs) was brought to me and I had the decision of whether to do it or not. I definitely thought it was something cool and was a great thing to get involved with just because I am 20 years old and if I would have went to college, I would be (enrolled) in an HBCU.

I think it's great because I'm in contact with the folk that I would be in school with or the young Black people that feel how I feel, you know, they're in college and trying to find a way out like I was.

Woman needs to look beyond man's words

Dear Quill: How do I know if a guy really likes me? — Hopeful

Dear Hope: So when you say "really" likes you, I take it that you want to know whether or not he is genuinely interested in you or if he just looks at you as "something to do".

Pay attention to the little things he says and does. A guy can sell you tickets all day about how much he's feeling you, but until his words of affection are backed up with the corresponding actions, all he is hot air.

However, keep in mind that men are careful about their emotions. In other words, chances are that he will not begin to really behave like he's interested until he's confident that it could go somewhere.

Dear Quill: Why do men say they are going to call at a certain time, and then don't? — Waiting for the phone to ring

Dear Waiting: First off, men don't do that.... PEOPLE do that.

There could be a number of reasons why the person you are referring to isn't calling back. One reason might be that he just doesn't want to talk to you. Another might be that he is legitimately

busy and will call you when he can. OR it could just be a strategy. He might be attracted to you, but not call right on time, every time so that he doesn't come off as being too pressed.

Either way, it would appear that you have some sort of affinity for whomever inspired your question, otherwise you wouldn't be upset. It could be that people do that to you all the time, but you only notice it now because you WANT him to call back on time, every time. Only you know which one applies to your situation.

Dear Quill: How do I tell my best guy friend I'm in love with him? — Don't Know What to Say

Dear Don't Know: Easy—the same way you tell anyone else.... You just do it.

I think your underlying question is really, "How do I get over my nervousness so that I can tell him that I'm in love with him?" Well, the answer to that is simple—you just do it.

There are risks in everything. It is only natural to assess the risks of putting yourself out there, but you must understand that it is a necessary risk that you must take if you are ever to make the most of what you think could be a successful relationship.

Send your questions to "Dear Quill" at newzargus@yahoo.com. Anonymity is guaranteed.

Dr. Forrest-Carter's first novel deals with relationships

By Tiphane Deas
ARGUS MANAGING EDITOR

As a little girl, Audrey Forrest-Carter read the dictionary out of a sheer fascination for words.

Back then, she never imagined that she would use her love of language to write a novel. But that is exactly what has happened. Forrest-Carter debut novel, "The Wages of Sin," is now on

bookshelves.

"I always knew that I could do it, but I have always understood that as a writer, you are just obligated to give your readers all of you and the best of you, and for a long time, I ignored the challenge or ran away from it," Forrest-Carter said.

When Carter finally put pen to paper, she found the challenge to be easier than she first believed.

"I just one day started freewriting and it just happened, and it grew," she said.

"The Wages of Sin" is the story of a well-to-do professor with a shady past, and the trials and tribulations of her best friend, the wealthy wife of a famous, but scandalous preacher. The novella deals with relationships, as both characters are surrounded by relationships and friendships of all types, from the parent-

child relationship to the teenage puppy-love relationship of the minister's oldest daughter.

Dr. Forrest-Carter is no stranger to writing. As an undergraduate at Bennett College, she had several poems published. She came to Winston-Salem State University as an English instructor in 1979, after earning her master's degree in African-American Literature

at North Carolina A&T State University. In 1984, WSSU gave her a grant to pursue her doctorate at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where she double-majored in rhetoric and composition and 19th century American literature. She completed her Ph.D. in 1990 and returned to take up the teaching position that she has held ever since.

As for her novel, Forrest-Carter said she had a

message to impart. "In my book, it shows African-Americans that don't have to deal with the issue of being economically deprived.

"I want to show a brighter and positive side of our people. We do work hard, we do love our families, we do enjoy good living, we do excel in what we do, and most importantly, we do love our families."



PARKER