The Process Analysis Essay

- To answer the question **how**, you explain the process by which something is made or happens or works
- The pattern of development your essay will follow is called Process Analysis
- In order to explain a process you will need to provide details about: where and how it occurs, what equipment or materials are needed, which people are involved, in what order the process takes place, and give examples of positive and/or negative outcomes.

Informational Process Analysis

- You'll understand how something works after reading this type of essay, but will not necessarily be able to do it.
- Eg. I understand how a clock works, but that doesn't mean I can build a clock.
- Can you think of a topic that fall under this heading which pertains to teenagers or entertainment?

Instructional Process Analysis

- You'll understand how to do something after reading this type of essay by following the step by step instructions.
- Eg. I can make a paper plane after following these directions.
- How well do you think you can explain to someone, "How to Boil Rice". Let's try it!

Process Analysis Writing Guidelines

1. Choosing your topic
   - Figure out if your topic is instructional or informational.
   - What materials or information are needed before starting to explain the “how”
   - Do a proper BRAINSTORM
2. Audience
   - Who is your intended audience?
   - What level of language, tone and examples will communicate with these persons?
3. Rough Draft
   - Do a rapid, discovery draft
   - Just get it flowing out and you’ll fix later
   - Don’t stop to fix things like punctuation and spelling. It’ll slow you down.
5. Revise
   - Look over your rough draft.
   - Switch to a beginner’s mind to figure out if you’re missing any steps? If yes, add.
   - Did you explain the steps well enough?
   - Are the steps in the best order (chronological, order of importance?
   - Do you need to add in any cautions or things to watch out for in any of the steps?
6. Second Draft
   - Check for transitions & add if necessary.
   - Revise awkward or unclear passages.
   - Use a dictionary or thesaurus if necessary to help with diction.
7. Proofread
   - Check for grammar and spelling and punctuation
   - Proofread slowly (if your eyes move too fast, they will “see” what should be there, not necessarily what is there.

Topics for Process Writing

- Do Without a Car
- Update Your Wardrobe
- Make Friends in a New School
- Study Better in Less Time
- Break off a Romance