

# Pre-writing

Prewriting includes at least three important steps.

- 1) Brainstorming creates ideas.
- 2) Organizing forms a structure for those ideas.
- 3) A thesis statement sets the goal for your paper.

Brainstorming can include the following:

- Word webs
- Lists
- Free-writing
- Oral dictation
- Drawing pictures
- Reading and taking notes (with citation information)
- Outlines
- Tables/Graphs

Organizing can include the following:

- Basic or detailed outlines
- Tables/Graphs
- Writing a thesis statement/topic sentences

Writing a thesis:

- Write a statement that is arguable.
  - Example: A dog is the best house pet.
- Support your statement with at least three main reasons.
  - Example:
    - Dogs are friendly.
    - Dogs are smart.
    - Dogs are cute.
- Combine your statement and reasons into one thesis sentence. Example: Dogs are the best house pets because they are friendly, smart, and cute.