

How to Have a Successful Tutoring Session

At the Writing and Reading Center

Come prepared!

- Bring your assignment sheet, teacher's rubric, or other documents your teacher gave you to help you with your paper.
- Bring the texts on which your paper will be based.
- Bring previous drafts you worked on, especially drafts on which teachers wrote comments and drafts you worked on with a tutor.
- Make sure your paper is typed and printed out. It will be easier for the tutor to help you when your paper is not hand written or on the computer screen.

While you wait...

- Think about what you can reasonably accomplish in 20-30 minutes of tutoring.
- Do your best to proofread for errors you can catch on your own. This will help the tutor concentrate on more important writing issues.
- Ask yourself:
 - Have I done everything that my teacher's assignment asked for?
 - Do I have an intro? A conclusion?
 - Do I have a point in every paragraph?
 - Is my thesis clear?
 - Do I have specific grammar issues I want the tutor to address? If so, what are they?
- Ask for writing and reading resources (we have tons!) so that you can learn something new on your own and then check your understanding with your tutor.

When it's your turn with a tutor...

- Present your assignment sheet to your tutor, so he/she will know what your assignment is.
- Show your tutor any drafts you've worked on, especially those corrected by your teacher.
- Tell your tutor if you've already worked with a previous tutor on the same assignment.
- Take out a piece of paper and be ready to mark your own drafts.

After the session...

- Ask what you can do at home to improve your skills. This simple question can go a long way in helping you do better in your next essay.
- Ask your tutor for other handouts or a list of web resources you can take home with you.
- Also, ask your tutor about other tutoring services on campus.