

## **Tips for Better Writing**

1. Remember, good writing is rewriting!! Write a first draft, then edit, edit, edit....Put aside for awhile, and then with a fresh eye reread and edit some more!!
2. Follow all instructions for the assignment.
3. Make an outline before you start writing.
4. Before the end of your first page, clearly state your purpose or thesis and indicate how the rest of your paper is organized.
5. Use section headings to help the reader follow the organization of your paper.
6. Each paragraph should begin with a good topic sentence that lets the reader know what is going to be discussed.
7. Mix up your sentence lengths, e.g., short, medium, long.
8. Broaden your word usage. Don't repeat the same words. Find synonyms. Use vivid verbs, adverbs, and, adjectives.
9. If you are discussing something you did or your own opinions, feel free to use the pronoun "I."
10. Use an active voice, not passive.
11. In your conclusion, tie your ideas/results together in a new way. Don't just repeat what you've already said.
12. For further writing assistance, make an appointment with the University Writing Center in Room 016 of Memorial Hall ([www.english.udel.edu/wc/](http://www.english.udel.edu/wc/))(phone 831-1168)