

## Writing as a Product

This handout focuses on writing as a product of economic analysis. This means using writing as a tool to develop and support one's argument. Here, the audience is someone other than the author.

Following a standard pyramid structure used in essay composition, the thesis is at the top. The major points and supporting evidence appears underneath each of these points. An inference is a conclusion reached after reasoning logically about facts and relationships. Given some observable facts and assumption about behavior, we can logically reach a conclusion based on these facts.

### Writing Steps

1. Pre-writing
  - taking notes on research papers for the literature review
  - getting your ideas down on paper
  - drawing up an outline of your paper
  
2. Writing the First Draft
  - organizing your ideas and writing formal essay structure
  - make sure that you properly cite others' ideas at this step
  - don't worry about
  
3. Revising
  - re-organizing the paper to make sure that the paper "flows" from one statement to the next
  - clarifying your points by making sure your writing is concise
  - linking the evidence to the conclusions drawn
  - incorporate active voice into your writing whenever possible
  
4. Editing – check the grammar, spelling, typos, etc.

You should be taking each of these steps before submitting a rough draft. This allows the feedback to be focused more on content and improving your writing. This will help your writing as a process more effective as well.