

Write On!



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VOLUME II ISSUE VI

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Science Writing

Stump the Tutor

“If you’re not doing science in a community, you’re not doing science!”

-Faculty member Jim Neitzel

Writing Center News:

Workshops (from 4:30-6 unless otherwise noted)-

Nov. 17th **Beginning the Evaluation Process** Lib. 2127

Nov. 19th **“Re-visioning” Your Academic Essay** Lib. 2130

The Compound Complex Sentence Lib. 2130, 2-3:00

The end of the quarter is near! Remember to make appointments at the Writing Center to get your evals and end-of-the-quarter essays looked at. We'll start getting busy soon!

Tutor of the Week

Allison Arth

- Year: Graduate
- Focus of Study: Mythology and children’s literature
- What she looks forward in this year of tutoring: Meeting new folks
- Favorite things to tutor: Children’s literature and personal essays
- Favorite book: The Odyssey
- Message for the audience: Nobody puts baby in a corner!

CAN YOU ... STUMP THE TUTOR?



Tyler asks...

How do you decide if someone is a “-ian,” or “-ite.”

For example: Why Washingtonian and not Washingtonite?

We’re glad you asked, Tyler. Kind of. That is a very difficult question. But you haven’t stumped us! There really isn’t a rule for which suffix to choose. Both “-ian” and “-ite” mean roughly the same thing- they connote one’s origin or a belief in something, take a “luddite” for example. Basically, the rules for tacking suffixes on to the ends of locations are pretty capricious and you should do what sounds right.

SCIENCE WRITING

It is as essential to learn to communicate within the sciences as it is to learn to write a thesis paper. Evergreen’s interdisciplinary approach to teaching provides all students, especially science students, the chance to engage in scientific writing.

Science writing is far different in form, tone, and intent than most other writing. A scientific tone is usually conveyed in passive voice, rather than active, and is concise, direct, and objective. These differences can make it difficult for students to begin writing scientifically. The best way to learn about science writing is to read scientific writing. When writing a lab report, look up some journals in the same field of science. The Evergreen Library has a comprehensive periodicals section and an even more complete list of online science resources.

This fall, The Evergreen Writing Center began offering a workshop series on scientific writing to complement its thesis-based workshop series. Check our website in the next few weeks for a winter quarter workshop schedule. Come by the Writing Center for scientific writing handouts based on these workshops. Writing Center tutors are able to assist students in any stage of their science writing.