

UCA Writing Center



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www.uca.edu/writingcenter



WE ALL KNOW SOME THINGS JUST ARE, BUT WHY?

THE SKY IS BLUE
THE SUN WILL RISE
TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN
NOW TELL ME WHY

ANALYZING *becomes a little easier when you remember five things.*

1. THINK ACTIVELY. *Get involved in your writing. Ask yourself questions that will inspire thought. Some suggestions include:*

- What am I really saying in this paragraph?
- How does this information/story relate to my reader?
- Can I make connections to other things outside my writing?
- If so, what do those connections mean about the content of my paper?

2. CAREFULLY EXPLORE SITUATIONS WITH QUESTIONS. *Don't just tell a story. Make sure you look for the reasons why the situation might have happened. It would be good to think about...*

- What makes this situation particular to my life or the character's life?
- How can I relate this information or story to the reader?
- Is this situation common?
- Is this information really relevant to the topic?

3. THINK FOR YOURSELF. *Don't take the easy way out. Explore the different avenues and don't just quote some other person.*

4. VIEW SITUATIONS FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES. *Step out from what you usually do. Try to put yourself in someone else's shoes. You will find that your views are very different from someone else's perspective.*

5. DISCUSS THE IDEAS IN AN ORGANIZED FASHION. *Organization is crucial in analyzing information for your reader's sake. Present your information thoroughly and then begin to ask your questions. If you dive right in, you may leave your reader feeling lost and never knowing why the sky **IS** blue!*