Self-check CU2M1 Techniques for Mastering Writing Process

1. According to Elbow, what happens when you allow yourself to write wrong the first, second, or third time?

Correct Answer: You get braver.

It makes you timid.

It makes getting it right harder.

You get discouraged.

2. According to Elbow, what is "reader-consciousness"?

When you share your work with others.

When someone reads your work.

Correct Answer: When you read through your draft as a reader rather than a writer.

When you read someone else's work that you admire.

3. According to Elbow, when you don't have a lot of time for revising, what is an essential practice?

Using spell check.

Having someone else look over your draft for you.

Crossing out any mistakes.

Correct Answer: Cutting what doesn't work, even your favorite bits.

4. According to Elbow's direct writing process, if the first half of your time is spent as a "fast-and-loose thinking person who is open to every whim," what is the last half of your time spent as?

"A chainsaw artist cutting away everything that is dead."

Correct Answer: "A ruthless, tough minded, rigorously logical editor."

"A gentle friend reminding you of the grammar rules."

"A spell checker."

5. If you want to use the direct writing process for important pieces of writing, what does Elbow suggest you need plenty of?

Paper

Talent

Correct Answer: Time

Energy

6. In Elbow's opinion, what is the best way to experience your writing from a reader's point of view?

Ask someone to read it to you.

Ask someone for feedback.

Correct Answer: Read your own work out loud.

Read your own work silently to yourself pretending to be the audience.

7. In the direct writing process, what advice does Elbow offer about making mistakes?

He suggests crossing out mistakes so they don't confuse you.

He suggests crumpling up the paper so you can start over with a fresh perspective.

Correct Answer: He suggests leaving the mistakes you make there and starting a new line.

He suggests making a draft that is mistake free so you feel confident in your writing.

8. In the direct writing process, what must you do when your alloted time for writing is half gone?

Use a thesaurus and replace boring words.

Put the writing away and go on to something else.

Start writing on a completely different subject.

Correct Answer: Stop writing and switch to revising.

9. Sometimes, Elbow explains, the best time to write your introduction is:

Correct Answer: after you've written everything else, so you know what it is you're introducing.

before you have written anything else, so you know where it is you're going.

during a freewrite.

after you've had a nap or a long walk.

10. What aspect of sharing does Elbow explain is crucial in the process when you share your writing?

Correct Answer: Reading your own writing aloud.

Having someone else read it back to you.

Sharing your writing with people who are good at grammar.

Sharing your writing with other writers.

11. What does Elbow mean by "raw writing"?

Writing with all of your raw emotions.

Correct Answer: Writing that is freely written and not at all revised.

Writing that elicits an emotional response in readers.

Writing that is taken from another source.

12. What does Elbow strongly suggest you do in order to avoid readers patronizing your work and taking it less seriously?

Write in the third person rather than the first person.

Correct Answer: Fix all mechanical and grammar mistakes.

Don't use the word "you" in your expository writing.

Write about subjects that are not cliche.

13. What kind of writers does Elbow suggest are the ones for whom the best methods are outlining and having the meaning figured out before writing begins?

New writers

Student writers

Correct Answer: Seasoned professionals

Intermediate writers

14. What two activities does Elbow assert will improve your writing more than anything else in his book?

Reading and revising

Correct Answer: Freewriting and sharing

Getting feedback and revising

Proofreading and revising

15. Why does Elbow refer to trying to write it right the first time as "The Dangerous Method"?

It requires a nap.

It requires lots of thinking, walking and drinking beer.

It takes longer.

Correct Answer: It puts more pressure on you and it depends on everything running smoothly.