

Mission Possible: Ball State's Student Veteran Newsletter

Upcoming Events

March 18—Course Withdrawal Period Ends

April 20—Walking Wounded Event (more info to come later)

May 4—Graduation

May 11 State SVO Conference held at Ball State (more info to come later)

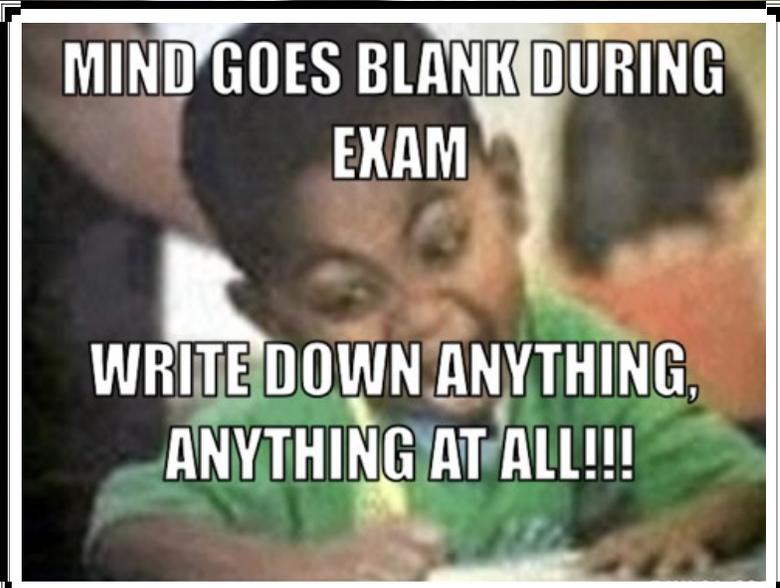
Ball State University

Writing Proficiency Exam Help

By Emilee Wolfley

The writing proficiency exam at Ball State is a requirement for everyone to graduate. You must register to take it between 60 credits and 90 credits. The exam consists of an essay prompt relating to a pre-assigned article. You have your choice of articles according to which day you want to take the exam. Everyone must read the article before the test, and take the computer-based exam within the 2 hour time limit. Here are some tips for success on the writing proficiency exam:

1. They want a 6+ paragraph essay so have a strong introductory paragraph and include a thesis. Make sure you have an equally strong conclusion paragraph that wraps up your essay. Well-developed paragraphs typically consist of 5-7 sentences.
2. Read the article several times and really understand it. Take notes on the paper, highlight important evidence, and make sure it's paginated so you can cite within your essay. Plagiarism is not acceptable! Any form of citation is okay to use (MLA, APA, Chicago) as long as it's consistent.
3. Take your time and think about what you'll write when you get there. Make an outline with the points you want to make in your essay before you write it. Also realize, there is no spell check, so bring a dictionary if you think you need it.
4. Go into the day of the test well-rested and with some food in your stomach. Keep your stress levels down, and believe that you can do it!



MIND GOES BLANK DURING EXAM

WRITE DOWN ANYTHING, ANYTHING AT ALL!!!

Don't be this kid; take my advice and be prepared for the Writing Proficiency Exam!

For more writing exam help, visit <http://cms.bsu.edu/academics/collegesanddepartments/universitycollege/writingproficiency>.