

Developing Writers: Using H5P to Support Composition Practice

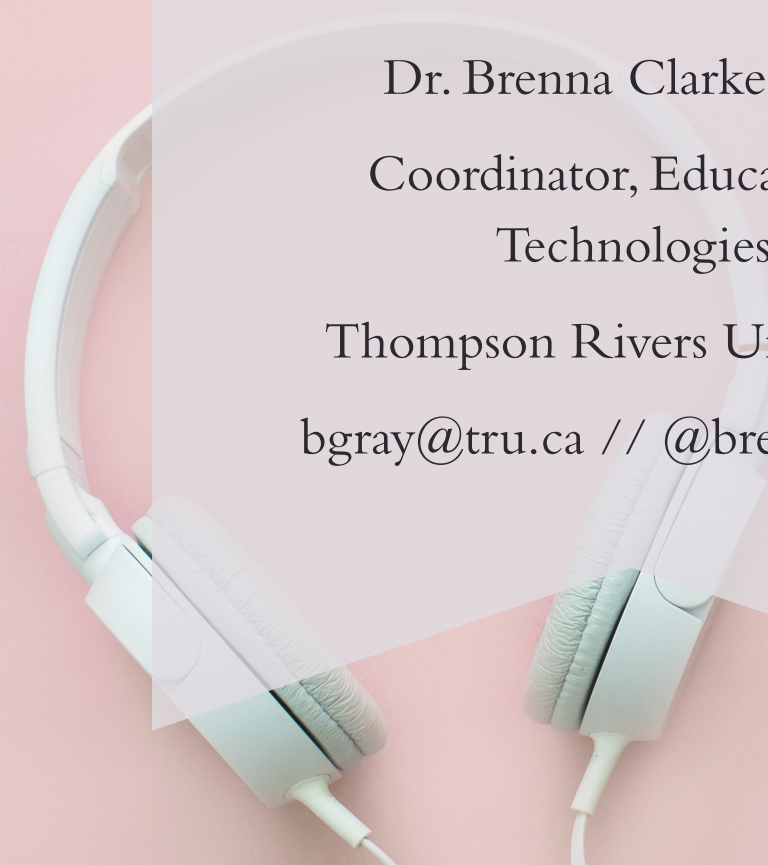
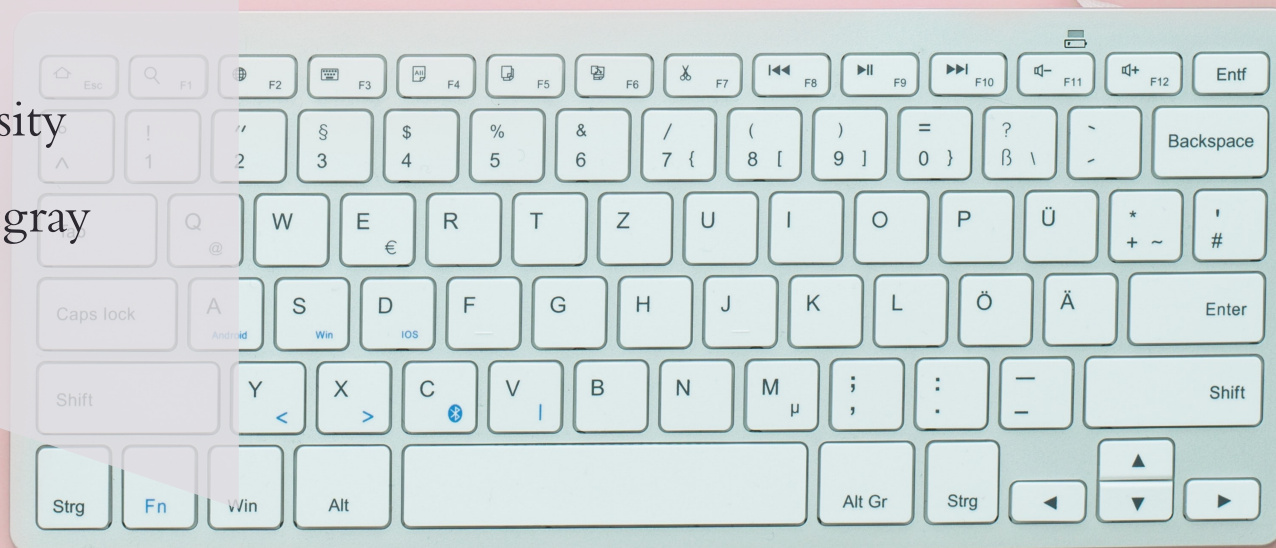


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Territorial Acknowledgment

I'm an uninvited visitor on Tk'emlups te Secwepemc territory within the unceded traditional lands of Secwepemcúl'ecw (Secwepemc Nation), where learning has taken place since time immemorial.

I am shaped by time spent in Algonquin Anishinabeg, Wolastoq and Mi'kmaq, and Qayqat lands.

Genesis of the Project

Lumen Learning Hackathon, September 2019

- An introduction to H5P, but also to using H5P as a formative feedback tool for skills development (in this case, the assignment was the use of the Course Presentation activity type).
- Led to exploration of how best to build composition feedback in H5P.

Time to Play (and build faculty competencies), October 2019 - October 2020

BCcampus Grant, October 2020 – July 2021

- Project to improve an existing OER, Writing for Success: 1st Canadian Edition.
- Allowed me to hire two students to develop the learning objects.

Key: Student Involvement



Lince Tomy and Ashmita Roy

Student RAs took responsibility for reading the textbook (they had both completed first-year composition courses successfully) and letting us know where the sticking points were.

Also identified an activity type and application – flashcards for key terms at the end of each chapter – that wasn't on the project radar at all.

- Getting Started
- Determining What You Know
- Thesis Statement Rules
- Drafting the Thesis
- Reviewing the Thesis
- Document Export

Getting Started

What is the question or prompt you are responding to? Recopy that content here. *

Write your essay question here.

What are the **key terms, concepts, or ideas** that the question suggests you must include in your response? For example, are you being prompted to reference a particular source or demonstrate knowledge of a particular course concept? Pay careful attention to key terms and make sure you can define them. Make your notes here.

*

Note your key terms and concepts here.

In this space, you're going to free write for five minutes about anything you made note of in the field above. When we free write, we try to ignore the part of our brain that wants to censor our ideas. To do this, try to keep your fingers typing. If you run out of things to say, recopy the essay question over and over just to keep your fingers going (and reinforce the assignment!) until something else occurs to you.

*

Free writing goes here.

THE GATEWAY ACTIVITY: THESIS DEVELOPMENT EXERCISE



H5P for Skills Development



H5P is established in reviewing closed-ended concepts. But what about stickier, messier skills development in a somewhat subjective field like composition?



Students need to do rough work and drafting to master composition skills. How do we signal the value and importance of this work?

Formative Feedback and Skills Development



- It's rare that I can offer students a “right answer.” But tools that allow me to build sample responses and cue important aspects of it are critical.
- Because marking essays is time-consuming, instructors often spend the lionshare of feedback time on final comments on essays... when students cannot act on it.
- Judicious use of H5P to frame and guide formative exercises can both *reinforce* key concepts and offer early-intervention feedback to students at the roughwork stage.



THREE EXAMPLES:

SUMMARY, ESSAY,
DOCUMENTATION TOOL

SUMMARY

Put the statements in the correct chronological order by clicking them in the order you believe they should be organized into a paragraph.



✓ Progress: 0/5

Finally, I slowly pour the steamed milk into my espresso.

And that's how I start my day with my perfect latte!

Every morning I make my coffee in the same way for maximum flavour.

First, I freshly grind my espresso beans.

Next, I use an espresso machine to pull an espresso shot directly into my coffee cup.

When I have the shot pulled, I use a milk steamer to steam one cup of milk.

Paraphrase the following passage in your own words.

“The twenties were the years when drinking was against the law, and the law was a bad joke because everyone knew of a local bar where liquor could be had. They were the years when organized crime ruled the cities, and the police seemed powerless to do anything against it. Classical music was forgotten while jazz spread throughout the land, and men like Bix Beiderbecke, Louis Armstrong, and Count Basie became the heroes of the young. The flapper was born in the twenties, and with her bobbed hair and short skirts, she symbolized, perhaps more than anyone or anything else, America’s break with the past.” From Kathleen Yancey, *English 102 Supplemental Guide* (1989): 25.

Sample solution

This is not the only way to paraphrase! When you compare yours to the sample, consider whether you’ve covered the key points effectively -- and make sure it's *entirely* in your own words.

During the twenties, lawlessness and social nonconformity prevailed. In cities, organized crime flourished without police interference, and, in spite of nationwide prohibition of liquor sales, anyone who wished to buy a drink knew where to get one. Musicians like Louis Armstrong become favourites, particularly among young people, as many turned away from highly respectable classical music to jazz. One of the best examples of the anti-traditional trend was the proliferation of young “flappers,” women who rebelled against custom by cutting off their hair and shortening their skirts (Yancey, 1989, p. 25).

Feedback

against the law	This is key to the conflict.
liquor	Given that prohibition was central to the 20s, this is important to include.
twenties	Setting your summary in time is helpful.
music*	This is the topic of the specific example given.
flapper	This is a key term and should be included.
Yancey	You must include your source!

↻ Retry

ESSAY



DOCUMENTATION TOOL

Assignment #2

- Assignment Preparation
- **Reviewing the Criteria**
- Drafting Your Summary
- Reviewing Criteria
- Print

Reviewing the Criteria

Remember that your summary should meet the following criteria:

- 100-150 words.
- Includes all key points from the original article.
- Demonstrates good use of your own vocabulary and sentence structure.
- Uses objective language (reporting on the content, not analyzing it).

For each of the criteria listed here, click the Add Criteria button and explain how you will meet the requirements for this assignment.

[+ Add Criteria](#)



A Bonus: Repurposing Multiple Choice for Pre-Submission or Process Checklists

Review the notes you have made so far for your Persuasive Essay, and ensure that your essay contains the following elements. Put a checkmark next to each item you have in place:

- An engaging introduction
- A reasonable, specific thesis that is able to be supported by evidence
- A varied range of evidence from credible sources
- Respectful acknowledgment and explanation of opposing ideas
- A style and tone of language that is appropriate for the subject and audience
- Acknowledgment of the argument's limits
- A conclusion that will adequately summarize the essay and reinforce the thesis

Check



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO
DOWNLOAD THESE SAMPLES
AS A PLACE TO START IN
USING H5P FOR YOUR OWN
PURPOSES.

Accessibility



The tools highlighted today all work with screenreaders. That said, if you're unfamiliar, it's worth testing out a screenreader yourself to see what the example of using these tools is like.

For students using OER offline, a key issue is the functionality of H5P. Exploring page-one printables will change the way resources using, for example, the Documentation tool are developed.

Thank you for your time today.



I'm looking forward to answering questions and discussing these applications further, and I hope you'll reach out.

You can also email me: bgray@tru.ca

Or find me on Twitter: [@brennacgray](https://twitter.com/brennacgray)