

# PREPARING FOR MIDTERMS

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Rutgers University Writing Centers  
Plangere Writing Center ♦ Livingston Writing Center ♦ Douglass/Cook Writing Center

Please take a few minutes to write your responses to the questions below. Be as specific as you can. Use another sheet of paper if you need one.

If you are in Composition Skills 098, Basic Composition 100 or Basic Composition with Reading 100R, you will have a midterm in your class. For your midterm, you will be writing about a new essay, one which you have not yet written a paper about. As in all the other essays that you write for this class, you will be asked to connect this new reading to one that you've already read and written about.

A good way to begin to prepare for the exam is to locate the main ideas in the new essay. Turn to that essay right now. From that essay, choose 3 KEY TERMS or important ideas. These should be words or ideas that the writer uses and explores throughout the essay. Write them here:

Find a sentence or two in the essay that defines or suggests a definition for EACH term. Copy those sentences here:

*(Continued on the back)* →

In your own words, explain what THIS WRITER means by EACH term.

If you were going to use these terms to think about the other essay for your midterm, how would you do it? You can plan ways to do this by pretending to be the teacher and writing some possible essay questions. Write AT LEAST 3 DIFFERENT essay questions that ask students to connect the two essays you have read.