

# The Rough Draft

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SCCCD



## Perspectives Piece

By: Hector Tapia

Working at the WRC, I have seen an influx of students who have this sense of “fear” for reading and writing. However, I don’t feel that students, let alone anyone for that matter, should feel that way. I can understand as to why so many have this sort of resentment for this subject, simply because it isn’t a skill one acquires overnight. Many students that I have worked with don’t know how to read or write properly, and I can’t stress it enough that this is perfectly fine. Despite working here at the WRC for a year now, I myself had to get tutoring when I was first started my college career. For one, college is a complete 360 compared to high school, in the sense that no one is “holding your hand” anymore. Since I no longer had a teacher guiding me

all the way through my essays, my papers tended to come out a complete mess. I remember getting back my first college paper with a completely awful grade, and I remember that giant wave of disappointment that overtook me. However, this giant sensation of disappointment was heavily needed! Due to not wanting to experience that awful feeling again, I wanted to ensure that I was going to become a better reader and writer, so I took advantage of the WRC. The center was able to help me fully understand all of the different types of formats there are, how to develop better study habits, and how to read more efficiently. After countless trips to the center, I became a great writer, if I do say so myself. All it took was time and dedication to overcome this minor obstacle in the road. I am beyond grateful for having

the opportunity to work for the WRC, not only because I am able to help those who felt the way I once did, but it made me realize that my calling in academia is English. If someone was to tell me three years ago that I was going to be an English tutor, along with being an English major, I would have looked at them as if they were a nut job, simply because I had this “hatred” for the subject. I cannot encourage you enough to take advantage of the WRC. For one, I know many of you have kids, family, or significant others. Trust me, I know how expensive they can be, so why would you pass up FREE TUTORING?! I know for a fact that if you come to the WRC for a subject that you struggle with, just as I once did, you can overcome it!! All in all, I hope to see you this semester, and may the odds be ever in your favor!

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## Words of Wisdom

By Melody Kruse

“And by the way, everything in life is writable about if you have the outgoing guts to do it, and the imagination to improvise. The worst enemy to creativity is

self-doubt.”—Sylvia Plath

As a writer, I find myself often held back by my own insecurities. It is easy to doubt myself, to assume the worst, and to think that my words that come out on

paper are ridiculous. However, Sylvia Plath, one of my favorite poets, encourages me to do otherwise. She challenges us to step out and write, to be creative and to be flexible with how we write. In my work as a supervisor at the

## Citation Spotlight

By Caroline Mata

*MLA citation for a book on Kindle*

Author Lastname, Author First-name. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Kindle AZW file.

(You use “AZW file” or “Kindle Edition” if it is a specific edition, or just write “Kindle”.)

Example:

Kalanithi, Paul. *When Breath Becomes Air*. New York: Random House, 2016. Kindle Edition.

*APA citation for online Encyclopedia or Dictionary*

When citing an online encyclopedia or dictionary with no author or date included, use the word you looked up in instead. If there is no date then specify that by placing n.d. instead of the date. Italicize the name of the website and always include the URL where it was retrieved from.

Example:

Feminism. (n.d.). In *Encyclopædia Britannica online*. Retrieved from <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/724633/feminism>

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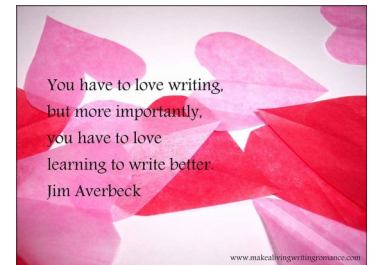
**“I know if you come to the WRC if you find the subject hard, just as I once did, you can overcome it!”**

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## Words of Wisdom Continued

Writing and Reading Center, I often see students who are hesitant to put words onto paper or who want to make their words so perfect that they miss out on the joy of actually writing. I challenge students, especially when they are writing first drafts, to get words on the page first, and know that they can always change it in revision. With writing, there has to be a level of

trusting yourself. Trust can slowly eradicate self-doubt. Yet I have found, with writing and other areas of my life, that trust takes longer to build up than self-doubt takes to tear down. But as I build up trust in myself, creativity begins to be my friend. And so, fellow writers, my challenge is this: be creative, improvise, revise and stamp out the self-doubt in your writing. You can do it!



## Words of Knowledge

By Vereak Than

**Effluvium** -- an invisible emanation, especially an offensive exhalation or smell.

Ex: A rank effluvium filled the scavenger’s nostrils as he traversed the corpse ridden bog.

**Noisome** -- very unpleasant or disgusting.

Ex: A noisome stench hung in the air, as the decedents lay ravaged

by bloat and bile.

**Abjuration** -- the act or process of rejecting (something) formally.

Ex: Much to the abjuration of his society, the young scavenger knew not the sanctity of his fellow man’s grave.

**Ensanguine** -- to make bloody.

Ex: To his chagrin, the wretched scavenger’s struggle would only

ensanguine the fists of his assailant.

**Indigence** -- a level of poverty in which real hardship and deprivation are suffered and comforts of life are wholly lacking.

Ex: The young scavenger would continue to suffer in utter indigence for the remainder of his days, a base soul as deprived as the corpses he groveled amongst.

## Grammar Bytes

Kathryn Robinson

The semicolon sounds scary, but it is really easy to use. Typically it is used to separate two independent clauses, which in simpler terms are two complete thoughts that can stand alone as a complete sentence. It can also be defined as connecting closely related ideas. Here are some examples on how to use it:

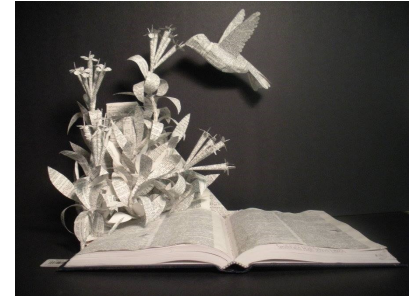
Some people take notes on their ipads; others prefer to use paper and a pencil.

My car is silver; it is also a newer model.

I enjoy any type of biology class; Mr. Wright was an excellent teacher.

See using a semicolon can be very easy! Just remember, if there are two independent clauses, use a semicolon.

*The Writing Center: The University of Wisconsin Madison. The University of Wisconsin, 2014. Web. 22 Feb. 2016.*



## Tutee of the Month

By Rebekah Olson

Rebecca Tapia exemplifies the effort and improvement that we love to witness here in the WRC. When I first worked with her last semester, she was barely learning how to put a paragraph together, and is now writing extensive, A-worthy essays largely due to her own dedication to learning and putting in the necessary work. When Rebecca comes to

see us, she has always been hard at work already, gathering her sources and beginning the writing process ahead of time, which makes for a more productive session. This is aided by the fact that she comes in often and makes appointments, giving herself the time she needs to really make headway on her assignments. She is also not afraid to ask questions and

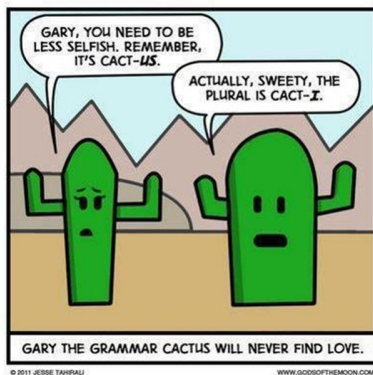
shows genuine excitement when she learns something new that she can use in her work. In such a short time she has already made tremendous strides in her writing and research abilities, and we are honored to continue to be a part of her educational journey. It is for these reasons that we name Rebecca Tapia our Tutee of the Month.

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## Comics of the Month (Selected by Tabitha Harrington)



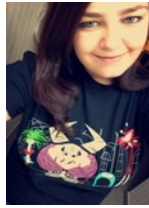
Tahirali, Jesse. “Everyone Loves Grammar Cartoon.” Comic. *CuriousGeorge*. 2011. Web.



Anderson, Mark. “At the Steakhouse for the Grammatically Challenged.” Comic. *Andertoons*. 2016. Web.



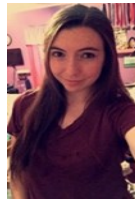
## Meet the Staff



My name is Sarah Gardner. I am a receptionist for the WRC. In my free time, I am usually painting and drawing or binge watching TV shows on Netflix. I am a horror movie fanatic and can be very nerdy/geeky. As for school, I attended Fresno City College and graduated in 2014 with an AA in Liberal Studies with and Emphasis in Social Science. I am currently attending Fresno State and will be graduating in May with a BA in Chicano Latino Studies. After all this time, I still do not know what I want to do as a career. I just knew that I needed to continue my schooling and hopefully find the spark that will light my path. As I continue on my journey, I'm sure I will find something that makes me happy.



Hello, my name is Kris Havlik, and I am a tutor in the Writing and Reading Center. This is my second semester working at Fresno City College, and I am a former PASS Leader. I am looking forward to an exciting and productive semester! I am a psychology major and plan to transfer to Fresno State in the fall. Some of my hobbies are playing guitar, sports, reading, and writing poetry.



My name is Marisa Jones and I have been working at the front desk in the WRC since the fall semester of 2015. I am a psychology major at Fresno City College and plan to transfer to Fresno State in the fall of 2016. I then hope to graduate with a masters in forensic psychology. I also hope to be able to travel around Europe one day! I have met so many people working at the WRC and have learned so much from these amazing tutors and students. Outside of school and work, I watch too much of *The Walking Dead* and other TV shows. I also enjoy movies, soccer, and spending time with friends and family.



Hello my name is Mercedes Salazar, and this is my first semester working at the WRC as part of the front desk. Even though I'm at the front desk, I still get the chance to help those who need it. I'm majoring in liberal studies, and I want to become a special education teacher. My goal is transfer to Fresno State by next spring. When I don't have school, I teach a group of younger girls at my local church in Selma. Reading is my favorite thing to do when I don't have a busy schedule.

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