Introduction – Self Assessment

Look over the following list of aspects of writing. Rate your skills (1: Weak, 3: Average, 5 Strong). What are your strengths? What areas do you want to improve?

1. Picking/narrowing a topic
2. Internet research
3. Library research
4. Making notes while researching
5. Organizing
6. Audience analysis
7. Writing an outline
8. Writing topic sentences
9. Sentence structure
10. Smooth transitions
11. Diction
12. Tone
13. Being creative
14. Writing a first draft
15. Creating a thesis
16. Grammar
17. Punctuation
18. Spelling
19. APA style formatting
20. Revising
21. Polishing my final draft
22. Completing assignments by the deadline

Do you enjoy writing? If so, what kind of writing do you like to do? (journaling, short stories, fiction, nonfiction, essays, etc.)
Look back at your responses on the self-assessment. You should be able to identify at a glance the areas in which you are strongest as well as the areas in which you know that you need a little work. This course will attempt to address all aspects of writing, and will include practice activities in many areas as well as suggestions for other resources. Pay particular attention to your areas of need, and remember that writing is like anything else – it gets easier with practice!