English 101 (K. Gruodis) Fall 2015 Writing in Style: Grammar Personal Study Plan

(15% of final grade)

LANGUAGE is POWER! Do you want to feel confident as a writer -- to know that you are expressing yourself as well as you can? Do you want to improve your chances for success in your studies, increase your career opportunities, and know that you are communicating effectively in social and personal relations?

Developing a control and comfort with language is one of the best ways to improve one's options in life, and the only way to get there is to develop a strong self-awareness as a writer. This part of our course will give you a chance to build that self-awareness and confidence by helping you:

several grammar/style topics to work on these topics on until you achieve mastery

1. DIAGNOSTICS & GOAL-SETTING

- REGISTER for (either with access card or trial access; see MIO message for links) and enter our course
- COMPLETE "Grammar Diagnostic A" (during lesson 4; complete at home if needed)
- Based on the diagnostic test results and teacher's feedback on your responses, CHOOSE <u>FIVE TOPICS</u> you would like to
 work on

as

• COMPLETE your Personal Writer's Profile and study plan (during lesson 7)

2. STUDY & PRACTICE five topics

- OPEN up the topic you want to study by clicking the arrow before the title
- LEARN about the topic -- see sections called "Introduction," "Study Pages," and "Learning Curve"; use another reference
- TEST your knowledge by doing a PRE-TEST (don't do this before you have studied the topic!)
- STUDY some more if necessary; see me for individual help if needed!

3. EVALUATION

 COMPLETE "Post-Tests" in your five topics: Monday, Oct. 5 (Test 1) Monday, Oct. 19 (Tests 2 and 3) Wednesday, Nov. 4 (Tests 4 and 5)

4. FINAL SELF-EVALUATION

- COMPLETE Part 2 of Personal Writer's Profile
- date TBD

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Personal Writer's Profile Stage 1 – start of semester

High school:

Languages:

• What is your "first" (most comfortable) language?

How have you had to use writing in any jobs and/or extracurricular activities you have done in the past? Did you feel confident writing in this context? Were there any specific skills you felt you were lacking?

How do you think you might use writing in any of the jobs/careers you are considering after CEGEP or university?

What are your personal goals in this course, in terms of:

- Grammar list specific topics
- Vocabulary
- Paragraphs
- Essay

• Look at your Diagnostic Test results and

- Verb Tense
- Adjectives and Adverbs
- Prepositions and Conjunctions

Overview: Sentences

- Subject-Verb Agreement
- Fragments
- Run-ons
- Coordination and Subordination
- Parallelism
- Modifier Placement
- Mixed and Incomplete Construction
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Personal Writer's Profile Stage 4 – end of semester

Congratulations on completing the Personal Study portion of this project! To wrap up this portion of the course, please take some time to think about how your writing has developed, and write about 250 words on the following questions (or add anything else you want to say!):

- Have you been able to meet the learning goals you set for yourself at the beginning of the semester?
- Was working on LaunchPad useful in this process?
- Have you been able to incorporate the skills you gained into your writing in general, in this course and elsewhere?
- Any other comments or suggestions?