

## The 27 Experimental Writing Questions for the Consortium

These questions were administered to over 23,000 students at 82 institutions (representative random sample) in spring 2008. These will also be used by the Writing Practices Consortium for spring 2009.

1. During the current school year, for how many of your writing assignments have you done each of the following?

*5=All assignments, 4=Most assignments, 3=Some assignments, 2=Few assignments, 1=No assignments.*

- 1A** Brainstormed (listed ideas, mapped concepts, prepared an outline, etc.) to develop your ideas before you started drafting your assignment
- 1B** Talked with your instructor to develop your ideas before you started drafting your assignment
- 1C** Talked with a classmate, friend, or family member to develop your ideas before you started drafting your assignment
- 1D** Received feedback from your instructor about a draft before turning in your final assignment
- 1E** Received feedback from a classmate, friend, or family member about a draft before turning in your final assignment
- 1F** Visited a campus-based writing or tutoring center to get help with your writing assignment before turning it in
- 1G** Used an online tutoring service to get help with your writing assignment before turning it in
- 1H** Proofread your final draft for errors before turning it in

2. During the current school year, in how many of your writing assignments did you:

*5=All assignments, 4=Most assignments, 3=Some assignments, 2=Few assignments, 1=No assignments.*

- 2A** Narrate or describe one of your own experiences
- 2B** Summarize something you read, such as articles, books, or online publications
- 2C** Analyze or evaluate something you read, researched, or observed
- 2D** Describe your methods or findings related to data you collected in lab or field work, a survey project, etc.
- 2E** Argue a position using evidence and reasoning
- 2F** Explain in writing the meaning of numerical or statistical data
- 2G** Write in the style and format of a specific field (engineering, history, psychology, etc.)
- 2H** Include drawings, tables, photos, screen shots, or other visual content into your written assignment

**2I** Create the project with multimedia (web page, poster, slide presentation such as PowerPoint, etc.)

- 3.** During the current school year, for how many of your writing assignments has your **instructor** done each of the following?

*5=All assignments, 4=Most assignments, 3=Some assignments, 2=Few assignments, 1=No assignments.*

**3A** Provided clear instructions describing what he or she wanted you to do

**3B** Explained in advance what he or she wanted you to learn

**3C** Explained in advance the criteria he or she would use to grade your assignment

**3D** Provided a sample of a completed assignment written by the instructor or a student

**3E** Asked you to do short pieces of writing that he or she did not grade

**3F** Asked you to give feedback to a classmate about a draft or outline the classmate had written

**3G** Asked you to write with classmates to complete a group project

**3H** Asked you to address a real or imagined audience such as your classmates, a politician, non-experts, etc.

- 4.** Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate from your institution?

*Response options:*

*4=Done, 3=Plan to do, 2=Do not plan to do, 1=Have not decided.*

**4A** Prepare a portfolio that collects written work from more than one class

**4B** Submit work you wrote or co-wrote to a student or professional publication (magazine, journal, newspaper, collection of student work, etc.)