

## Writing as a Tool of Learning

Writing allows students to think in complex ways. Writing contributes to self-knowledge. Writing helps clarify and order experience. Writing helps students to be better readers. Writing enables students to “do better” in school. Writing is basic to thinking, learning, and growth.

### Thinking

- ▲ Writing is a unique, graphic record of thought that can be reviewed, revised, and used to make new cognitive jumps.
- ▲ Writing makes a unique contribution over and above conversation to the development of thought.
- ▲ Writing is a slow, static, graphic record of original thought. This record allows review and revision.
- ▲ Writing is visible and permanent.
- ▲ Writing assumes a much slower analysis and synthesis and transforms process into simultaneous review of thought.
- ▲ Writing leads to new inner speech and thought.
- ▲ Writing enriches and elaborates the thought process.
- ▲ Writing is essential for linear, analytical thinking.

### Learning

- ▲ Writing is a critical adjunct to learning
- ▲ Writing helps us absorb new information and builds a structure of knowledge.
- ▲ Writing helps us find out if we really know the topic
- ▲ Writing is available for instant review
- ▲ Reportage would be impossible without writing.
- ▲ Writing is central to the process of understanding new facts and concepts or evaluating new experiences
- ▲ Writing allows for clarifying, analyzing, and synthesizing concepts.
- ▲ Writings is essential to determining what and how much ones knows.
- ▲ For a self-critical person, writing is essential for evaluation and analysis.
- ▲ Writing is essential to the scientific mind—until it is written, it cannot be examined.
- ▲ Writing is a means of development of conceptions and contemplation.
- ▲ Writing changes the writer: now there is a graphic record, a visual example of the writer’s knowledge.
- ▲ Writing as a process simultaneously employs symbolism and graphics. It employs sight and hand.
- ▲ Writing results in discovery of what we didn’t know we knew.
- ▲ The more we write, the more we know, and the better we are able to compete academically.

### Writing to learn within AVID assumes three main forms:

- ▲ Note-taking
- ▲ Learning Logs
- ▲ Writing process, discourse mode lessons