Advice Column

problems about writing

- Read the problems below and discuss possible solutions.

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Dear Anita,

I’m studying English at college, and I enjoy my classes, especially my writing class. I make very few spelling mistakes because I always use a dictionary when I have writing homework. But my teacher says that my writing will be better if I try to be more creative. How can I get interesting ideas to write about?

Tony

Dear Anita,

How important is spelling? I make a lot of spelling mistakes in my writing and next week we have a big spelling quiz. Our teacher gave us a list of thirty words. How can I get an ‘A’ on this quiz? Thanks.

Maggie

Dear Anita,

Last week I missed one of my writing classes because I was sick. The next day, I saw a big sheet of paper on the wall that said:

(1) thesis
(2) brainstorm
(3) outline
(4) first draft
(5) margin
(6) indent
(7) introduction
(8) body
(9) conclusion
(10) proofread
(11) peer edit
(12) second draft

I forgot to ask my teacher about the meaning of this, and we have a quiz on Thursday. Can you help me – what do these words mean?

Amna

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- Compare your solutions with different classmates. Do you agree or disagree with their ideas?