



Quickwrites

an approach to increase academic performance

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The Problem

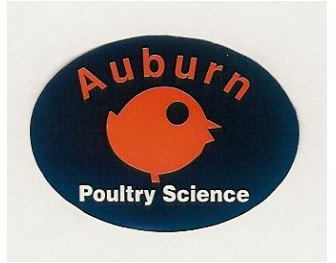
Incoming Freshmen and Transfer Student

1. Lack of good study skills
2. Do not regularly:
 - Review notes
 - Ask questions
3. Study “just” before the test (PANIC)
4. Don’t write in complete sentences



The Fix: Quickwrites (WAC)

1. Forces students to review notes regularly
2. Forces students to think about questions
3. Forces students to use good writing skills



The Quickwrite

(writing across the Curriculum – WAC)

- Brief written response on assigned topic
- May be given at the beginning and end or after class (homework)
- Focuses the students
- Helps evaluate student and teacher
- Promotes good writing and critical thinking skills



My Quickwrite

1. Homework – done outside of class
 - Allows ample time to review and improve notes and identify important concepts and questions
 - Allows individual questions to be answered individually
2. Done regularly (7-10 days)-forced review
3. Typed – 1 page, double spaced – required student to do outside of class – due at the beginning of class
4. Up to one third can be questions



The Requirements

1. One page – double spaced – typed
2. Briefly discuss the important concepts covered since last quickwrite (include labs)
3. Use up to one-third of paper for questions – must certify
4. Ten quickwrites per term – 100 points (10 points each)
5. Due every 7 – 10 days (syllabus) 10% off for each day late



The Results

1. Students regularly review notes and asked questions
2. Both students and professor got a good indication of how well they were doing
3. Students felt it better prepared them for tests.
4. More effective with new students
5. Gained experience in writing - improvement



Conclusions

1. Helps students to help themselves.
(develops learning, writing and critical thinking skills)
2. More effective with incoming students
3. Modified system allows more time for teaching