

## Blogging Guidelines

**Objectives:** While the thought of *being a writer* is exciting and romantic, actually creating a polished piece can be overwhelming because it requires hours, if not days or weeks, of undivided thought and effort.

Blogging, or posting discussion-oriented writing onto a public web space, is an excellent practice tool for writers. It forces writers to assume the risks of writing, namely, being criticized, and write more conscientiously now that their writing is under a microscope.

You will blog in the hopes of improving as a writer and becoming more familiar with the writing process. The process may frighten you now, but you will see how your writing improves as you blog!

- Expectations:**
1. Go to [www.mrcjun.weebly.com](http://www.mrcjun.weebly.com).  
Go to “Academic English 11” > “\_\_ Period Blog”
  2. Approximately once a week, you will post a 200-300 word response to a question that I post for the week. All the questions relate to class discussions or readings. There may be more than one question you can respond to.
  3. Your writing should be analytical, i.e. focus on arguments and evidence, not your feelings and opinions. Dissect, evaluate, argue and critique.
  4. Edit. Edit. Edit. Make sure your writing does not have spelling, punctuation and grammar errors. Your writing should be logical, coherent and thoughtful.
  5. Remember that everything you post is now public. Only write what you want others to read. Respect yourself, classmates and teachers. You don't have to agree with everyone's opinions, but you absolutely must respect cultural, religious, political, gender, socioeconomic and lifestyle differences.

## Sample Blog Questions:

["My Zombie, Myself: Why Modern Life Feels Rather Undead" By Chuck](#)

[Klosterman](#)

7/15/2014

[7 Comments](#)

1. What is the purpose of the essay? What is Klosterman attempting to accomplish through the essay?
2. According to the essay, what is the relationship between the zombie trope and modern life? What does the zombie, as a symbol, reveal about our own fears and reading of modern life?
3. How does Klosterman's writing style support or hinder his arguments?



[7 Comments](#)

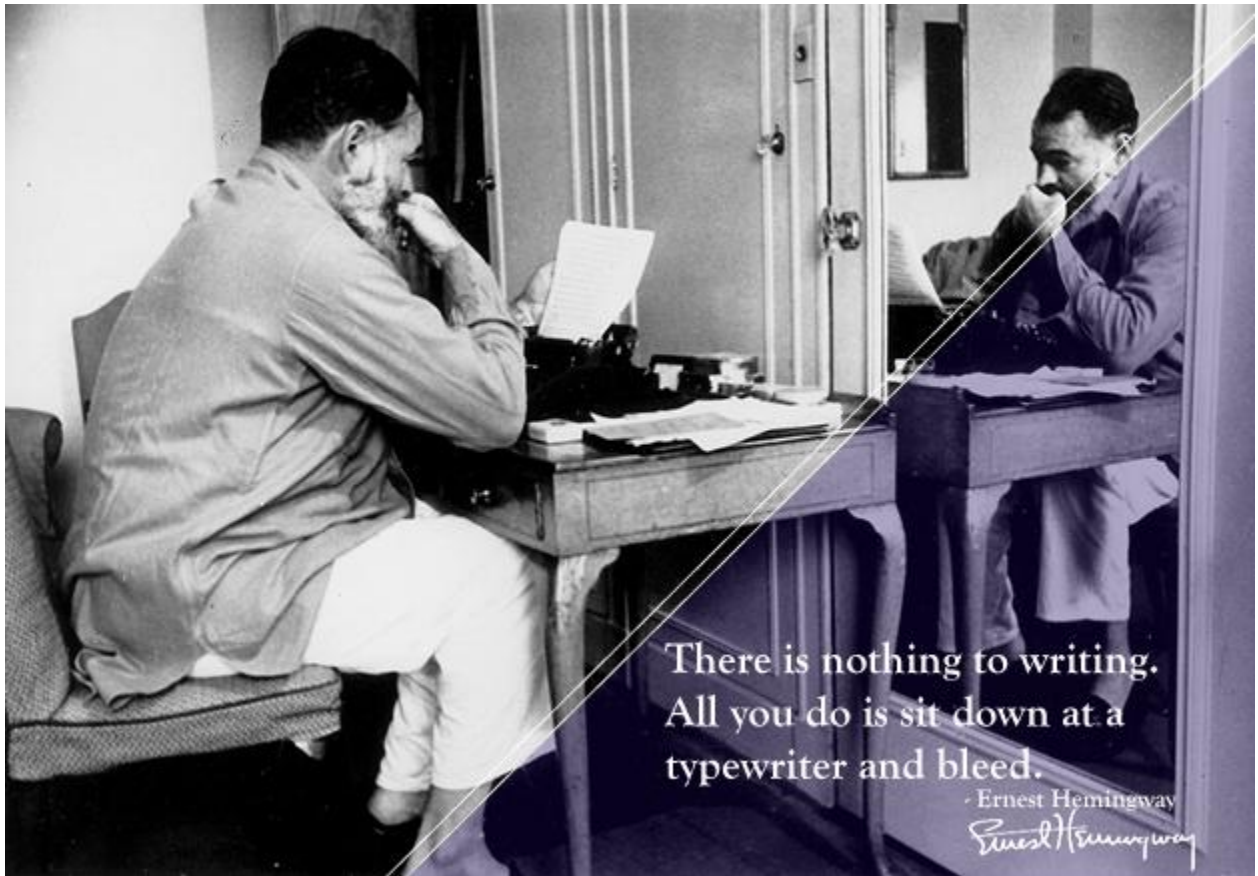
## Sample Blog Response:



07/20/2014 9:36pm

The zombie has become an increasingly recurring theme throughout pop culture in the past couple of years. Chuck Klosterman's "My Zombie, Myself: Why Modern Life Feels Rather Undead" carefully unpacks the psychological reasoning behind our recent fascination with the undead. According to Klosterman, the monsters that are most popular in pop culture are often representations of our own fears at the time. Zombies can be interpreted in a number of different ways. They can represent a fear of rapidly spreading diseases or even the evils of being a mindless consumer. However, in this particular essay, Klosterman discusses the theory that "a lot of modern life is exactly like slaughtering zombies". Zombies are just like the mindless, never ending, and mostly pointless tasks we are faced with everyday. They require no thought, are mostly easy to "kill", and they never stop coming. With inventions like the internet, the smartphone, and social media, it is very easy to become infected by the zombie-tasks. When you're surfing the web or refreshing Facebook for the billionth time, you are really just being infected by the zombie plague. Day after day after day we are faced with more and more zombies until we either run out of tasks or we die. This is what Klosterman believes to be society's greatest fear. That the thoughtless tasks won't stop until they overtake us. That our modern life is so mindless that eventually we will all become infected. His solution to this problem? Keep killing.

[Reply](#)



There is nothing to writing.  
All you do is sit down at a  
typewriter and bleed.

Ernest Hemingway  
*Ernest Hemingway*