



CK.0000075235

Carolyn E. Channell | Timothy W. Crusius

The background of the cover features a close-up photograph of several citrus fruits. In the foreground, a kiwi is sliced in half, showing its vibrant green flesh, dark seeds, and white core. Behind it, several whole oranges and lemons are visible, some with green leaves attached. The lighting is bright, highlighting the textures and colors of the fruit.

# Engaging Questions

A Guide to Writing

NYEN  
EU



*Thinking critically and questioning go hand in hand. Together, they promote genuine engagement with writing and the other language activities essential to success in college, career, and life.*

# Selected Questions

## Exploring a Concept

- What are the dictionary definitions of the concept? 151
- In what contexts do people use the concept? 151
- Does conflict or disagreement occur when the concept is discussed? 151
- What do I hope to discover by exploring the concept? 165
- What stake do my readers have in exploring the concept? 158
- How can I best guide my readers through my thought process? 167

## Comparing Perspectives

- What perspectives can I find on the topic? 177
- Why do people's perspectives differ? 177
- What are the points of agreement and disagreement? 193
- How can I synthesize the best points of all the perspectives? 189
- What outcome do I want from my comparison? 193
- What value does the comparison have for my readers? 193

## Making a Case

- What is the range of opinions on the topic? 250
- Why do people hold these opinions? 250
- What do I think is the best opinion? Why? 250
- What readership do I want to convince? 251
- What is my claim? 251
- What reasons justify or explain my claim? 251
- What evidence can I offer to support my reasons? 251

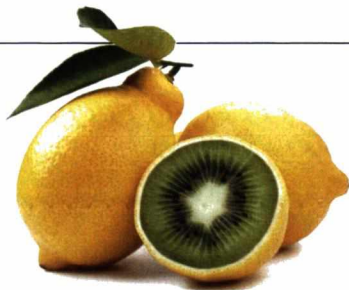
*The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity.* ALBERT EINSTEIN



# ENGAGING QUESTIONS

## A Guide to Writing

---



**Carolyn E. Channell**, *Southern Methodist University*

**Timothy W. Crusius**, *Southern Methodist University*

**GIFT OF THE ASIA FOUNDATION  
NOT FOR RE-SALE**

**QUÀ TẶNG CỦA QUỸ CHÂU Á  
KHÔNG ĐƯỢC BÁN LẠI**





## Engaging Questions: A Guide to Writing

Published by McGraw-Hill, an imprint of the McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020. Copyright © 2013 by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America. No part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written consent of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., including, but not limited to, in any network or other electronic storage or transmission, or broadcast for distance learning.

This book is printed on acid-free paper.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 DOC/DOC 1 0 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

ISBN: 978-0-07-338382-8

MHID: 0-07-338382-1

Sponsoring Editor: *Nancy Huebner*

Marketing Manager: *Kevin Colleary*

Market Development Manager: *Nanette Giles*

Development Editor: *Cara Labell*

Production Editor: *Melissa Williams*

Manuscript Editors: *Deborah Kopka; Karen Murphy*

Design Manager: *Jeanne M. Schreiber*

Text Designer: *Elise Lansdon*

Cover Designer: *Irene Morris*

Photo Research: *Brian J. Pecko*

Buyer: *Louis Swaim*

Digital Product Manager: *Janet Byrne Smith*

Media Project Managers: *Andrea Helmbolt; Jennifer Barrick*

Composition: *10/12 Adobe Garamond by Thompson Type, Inc.*

Printing: *45# New Era Thin, by R.R. Donnelley & Sons*

Vice President, Editorial: *Michael J. Ryan*

Publisher: *David S. Patterson*

Director of Development: *Dawn Groundwater*

Cover Image: Lemon: © *Valentyn Volkov/istockphoto.com*;

Kiwi: © *miketantc/istockphoto.com*

Because this page cannot legibly accommodate all the copyright notices, credits are listed on pages 529–531 and constitute an extension of the copyright page.

### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Channell, Carolyn.

Engaging Questions: A Guide to Writing / Carolyn Channell — 1st ed.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

ISBN-13: 978-0-07-338382-8 (alk. paper)

ISBN-10: 0-07-338382-1 (alk. paper)

1. English Language—Rhetoric. 2. Academic writing. I. Title.

PE1408.H685247 2012

808'.042—dc22

2011847705

The internet addresses listed in the text were accurate at the time of publication. The inclusion of a website does not indicate an endorsement by the authors of McGraw-Hill, and McGraw-Hill does not guarantee the accuracy of the information presented at these sites.

# DEDICATION

For James L. Kinneavy

# ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Carolyn E. Channell** taught high school and community college students before joining the faculty at Southern Methodist University, where she is now a senior lecturer and specialist in first-year writing courses. She has served as a writing program administrator and is currently coordinator of computer-assisted instruction. Her research interests involve literacy in the digital age. She resides in Richardson, Texas, with her husband David.

**Timothy W. Crusius** is professor of English at Southern Methodist University, where he teaches beginning and advanced composition. He is the author of books on discourse theory, philosophical hermeneutics, argumentation, and Kenneth Burke. His longstanding interest in the relation between dialogue and rhetoric has led in recent years to a fascination with the art of questioning, his current research focus. He resides in Dallas with his wife, Elizabeth, and with two adults who used to be their children, Micah and Rachel.



# BRIEF CONTENTS

Letter from the Authors xv

Preface xvi

## PART I

### Exploring Writing and Reading 1

- 1 Critical Thinking and the Art of Questioning 2
- 2 Reading Critically and the Art of Questioning 13
- 3 Writing and the Art of Questioning 38

### GENRES FOR FURTHER PRACTICE

How Do I Write a Rhetorical Analysis? 50

How Do I Write a Blog? 56

## PART II

### Practicing Writing 63

- 4 Interpreting Experiences 64
- 5 Creating Profiles 88
- 6 Presenting Information 116
- 7 Exploring a Concept 147
- 8 Comparing Perspectives 173
- 9 Critiquing an Argument 202
- 10 Making a Case 232
- 11 Appealing for Action 258

12 Writing an Evaluation 286

13 Choosing Strategies of Development 310

14 Editing Fundamentals 335

### GENRES FOR FURTHER PRACTICE

How Do I Write a Reflection? 358

How Do I Write a Visual Analysis? 366

How Do I Write a Review? 374

How Do I Write an Editorial? 381

How Do I Write a Proposal? 388

## PART III

### Researching Writing 395

15 Planning a Research Project 396

16 Finding Sources 412

17 Evaluating Sources 436

18 Incorporating Source Materials 433

19 Using Sources Responsibly 456

20 Documenting Your Sources: MLA 462

21 Documenting Your Sources: APA 491

INDEX 533

### GENRES FOR FURTHER PRACTICE

How Do I Write a Research Proposal? 518

How Do I Write an Annotated Bibliography? 524



22 Interpreting Short Stories

23 Claiming Voice

24 Designing Documents and Using Graphics

25 Writing Portfolios

26 Mastering Essay Exams

27 Giving Oral Presentations

### GENRES FOR FURTHER PRACTICE

How Do I Write a Prospectus?

How Do I Write a Lab Report?

How Do I Write Instructions?

How Do I Write an Abstract?

### HANDBOOK

Section I: Signaling the Reader

Section II: Editing for Common Errors

# CONTENTS

## PART I

### Exploring Writing and Reading 1



#### CHAPTER 1

##### Critical Thinking and the Art of Questioning 2

- Why Is Questioning Important? 2
- What Do I Really Think? 4
- What Does That Word Mean? 5
- Is That Statement Accurate? 6
- Is That Statement True? 6
- What Do You Gain from Thinking Critically? 7

**READING** Study: *Students Need More Paths to Career Success* by Christine Armario 10

---

#### CHAPTER 2

##### Reading Critically and the Art of Questioning 13

- What Is Critical Reading? 13
- How Does Critical Reading Work? 14
- What Questions Guide Critical Reading? 16

##### THE ASSIGNMENT 31

- What Could I Write About? 31
- What Is My Rhetorical Situation? 32

##### READINGS

*Notes of an Alien Son: Immigration Paradoxes* by Andrei Codrescu 19

---

*Information Is Powerlessness* by Lee Siegel 33

---

#### CHAPTER 3

##### Writing and the Art of Questioning 38

- What Is Good Writing? 38
- What Is the Rhetorical Situation? 40
- Why Ask about the Rhetorical Situation? 40
- What Is Voice? 40
- Why Does Voice Matter? 42
- What Is an Angle? 42

##### THE ASSIGNMENT 45

- What Could I Write About? 45
- What Is My Rhetorical Situation? 45

##### READINGS

*What Is Paleontology?* University of California Museum of Paleontology 41

---

*Planet of Weeds* by David Quammen 41

---

#### GENRES FOR FURTHER PRACTICE

- How Do I Write a Rhetorical Analysis? 50
- How Do I Write a Blog? 56