

Automated Writing Evaluation in *English Discoveries Online* For Distance Learners

Dear Student,

We are very pleased to introduce our automated writing evaluation technology.

This feature will help you to develop your writing skills and provide you with guidance on how to improve on your own.

You are now able to submit written work twice and have your work automatically evaluated. The system will provide detailed feedback, analyzing both the development and the language of your writing.

Step 1 – Pre-evaluation stage

The open writing questions can be found towards the end of the Practice section in selected Listening or Reading components.


You should read the question carefully and think about your answer before writing.

In the Listening component, look back at the Explore section and review the language in See Script.

In the Reading component look back at the Explore section and use the Key Words tool to identify target language of the lesson. These will appear highlighted in the text.

[My Courses](#) >> [Basic 1 2012](#) >> [At The Restaurant](#) >> New Mexican Restaurant

[Explore](#) [Practice](#) [Test](#)



New Mexican Restaurant

- Help
- Help
- See translation
- Main Idea
- Key Words**
- Reference Words
- Print

New Mexican Restaurant Open In Soho

by Carlos Suarez

There are a lot of Mexican restaurants in New York City, but not all of them are good. **Taco City** is a good **Mexican** restaurant at 845 Spring Street in Soho. Taco City has wonderful Mexican **food** at **low prices**.

Today, Taco City is selling two big **tacos** with beans, chicken or beef, cheese, lettuce, and salsa for only \$4.25. A complete **dinner**, with soup, a main dish, a salad, and dessert is only \$10.95. Mexican beer is \$2 a bottle. This week they are giving a free drink with each dinner.

Visit Taco City soon and enjoy some great Mexican food.

Try to use these words in your writing. This will help you to remember any new words as you are actively using them, not just passively understanding when you hear or read them.

Brainstorm ideas related to the question by writing down on a piece of paper any words connected with the topic that come to mind. Then, organize your ideas into categories and think of a heading that connects your ideas. These will be the basis of your topic sentences.

Make a plan of what it is you want to write and then begin writing. For example:

Have you ever been on a hiking trip that went wrong? Where did you go? What was the weather like? What happened? Did you get lost? Did you get hurt? Write a paragraph about a trip that turned out differently from what you expected.		
Weather	Windy, stormy. It was raining. Cold	The weather was terrible when we went hiking last May.
What happened	Accident, fall-fell break-broke leg, ambulance	A freak accident happened as we were coming down the mountain.
Conclusion	Hate hiking! Crutches for 6 months	In the end...

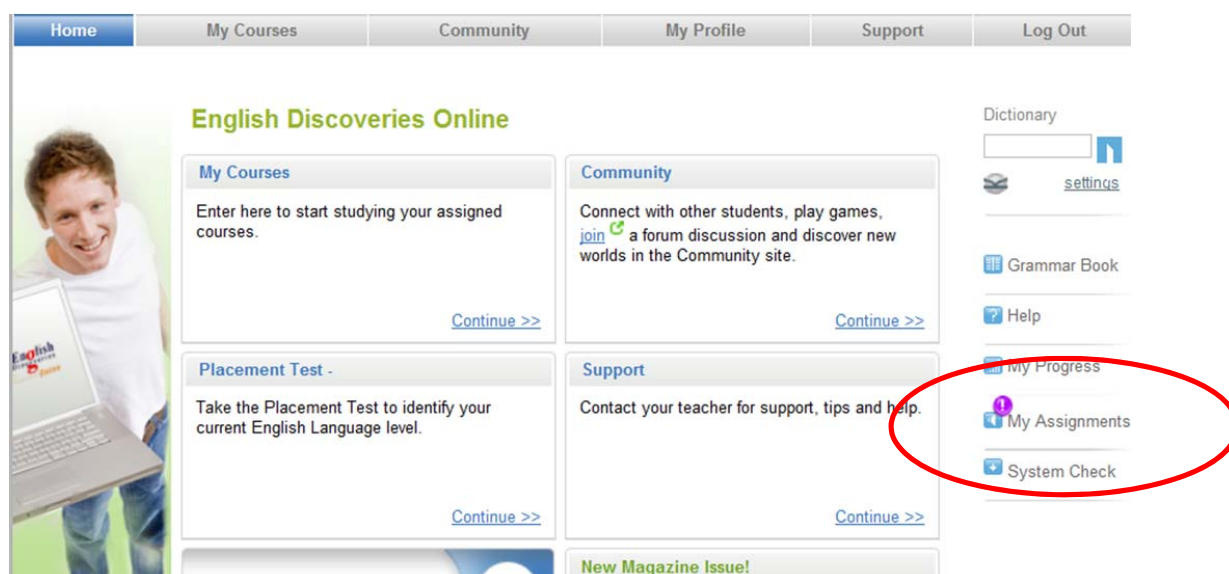
Check list

When you have finished writing for the first time, you should check your work!

1. Read it again to yourself slowly and carefully.
2. Check spelling and see if you can replace any words with better vocabulary.
3. Make sure you have included new language from the unit.
4. Review grammar and punctuation, making sure you have used capital letters for proper names and the start of sentences.
5. Make sure you have answered the question fully.

You are now ready to send your work for automated writing evaluation!


You will receive notification that your assignment has been evaluated in 'My Assignments' on the right-hand side of the screen after a few minutes.



Step 2 – Post-Evaluation 1

You can now review feedback on your assignments by clicking on the 'My Assignments' notification on the right-hand side of the screen.

Click on the course to view the units you have worked in. You can view the status of your writing assignment in the Status column. To see feedback and/or edit your work, click on the link next to the assignment you want to work on.

Basic 1 2012	[1]
Basic 2 2012	[3]
Practice	Status Last Update
Unit 2 - Healthy Eating >> Dieters Are Feeling Great!	 22/07/2014 See feedback and try again

On receiving the first set of feedback, you will be guided in reviewing and revising your writing, providing you with an opportunity to learn from your mistakes. This process is very important to enable you to develop your writing skills in English and to take responsibility as an autonomous learner in the 21st Century.

The system will **not** automatically correct errors, but instead, will guide you in analyzing the feedback, reviewing work and applying changes.

My Courses>>Intermediate 1 2012>>Celebrations>>The First Thanksgiving

Automated Feedback

Missing Initial Capital Letter in a Sentence
Remember to use a capital letter at the beginning of a sentence.

Did It

Development Language Teacher Comments

i like like to celebrate a the New Year's Day in 31 December every year. This because in this celebration the people are most lovely and everyone stop to think about the things that they have been doing last years and plan the new things that they would like to do in the new

2nd Idea (1)

We usually eat some fruits like grapes, strawberry, watermelon, pineapple and others. Other people wear white underclothes because this attract luck with money and love. During all the night some people drink champagne and wine too. It's a very good day to plan a new life for a new year!

Edit Text

Write about a festival that you like to celebrate in your country. What food do you eat? What do you drink? Are there any special customs? Do you wear special clothes?

108 Words

i like like to celebrate a the New Year's Day in 31 December every year. This because in this celebration the people are most lovely and everyone stop to think about the things that they have been doing last years and plan the new things that they would like to do in the new year.

We usually eat some fruits like grapes, strawberry melon, watermelon, pineapple and others. Other people wear white underclothes because this attract luck with money and love. During all the night some people drink champagne and wine too. It's a very good day to plan a new life for a new year!

Click on the word/s that are underlined in purple to read the automated evaluation comments. You can use the left/right arrows to navigate to the next correction. Notice that each correction will be highlighted in orange.

Sample comments that you are likely to encounter:

Comment	Explanation
Fragments	This sentence may be a fragment or may have incorrect punctuation. Check that the sentence has correct punctuation and that it is complete.
Short sentences	You have many short sentences. You can improve your sentence structure by combining sentences.
Subject-Verb Agreement	This subject and verb may not agree. Check that the subject of the sentence agrees with the verb.
Determiner Noun Agreement	You may have used the wrong article (the/a/an).
Transitional Words and Phrases	You have used these transition words and phrases in your writing. Check to see if you have used each word or phrase correctly.
Missing initial capital letter in a sentence	Remember to use a capital letter at the beginning of a sentence.
Run-On Sentences	This sentence may be too long. Check if you need to add punctuation, linking words, or create separate sentences.

Step 3 – Post-Evaluation x2

Once you have made any necessary corrections and rewrites, you can submit your writing for a second evaluation.

We hope you maximize learning benefits from this new technology and wish you well in your studies.