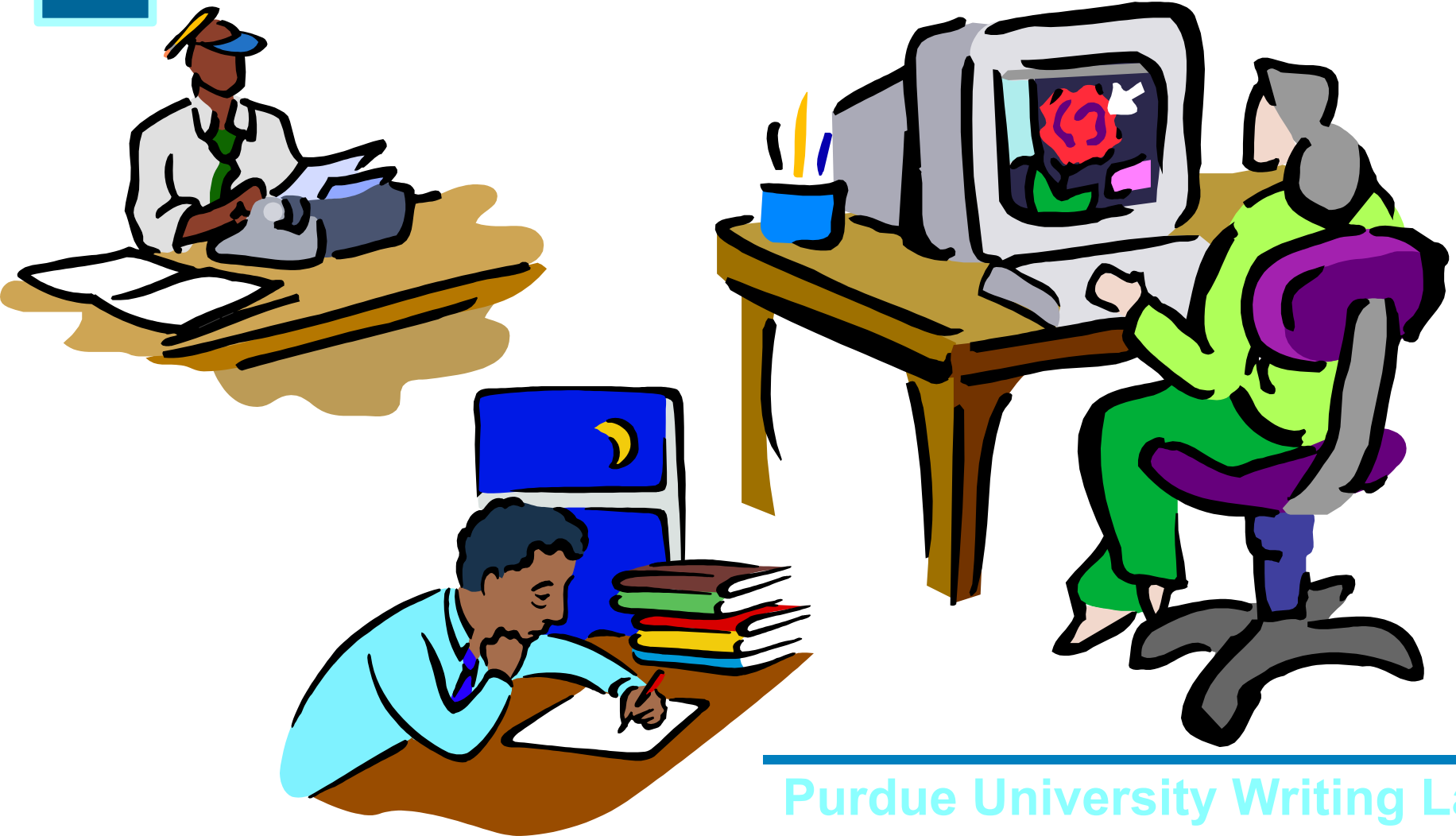
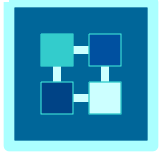


Finding Your Focus: The Writing Process

A presentation brought to you by the
Purdue University Writing Lab

Everyone has a writing process.
What is yours?

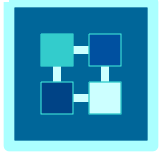


Why do you need a writing process?

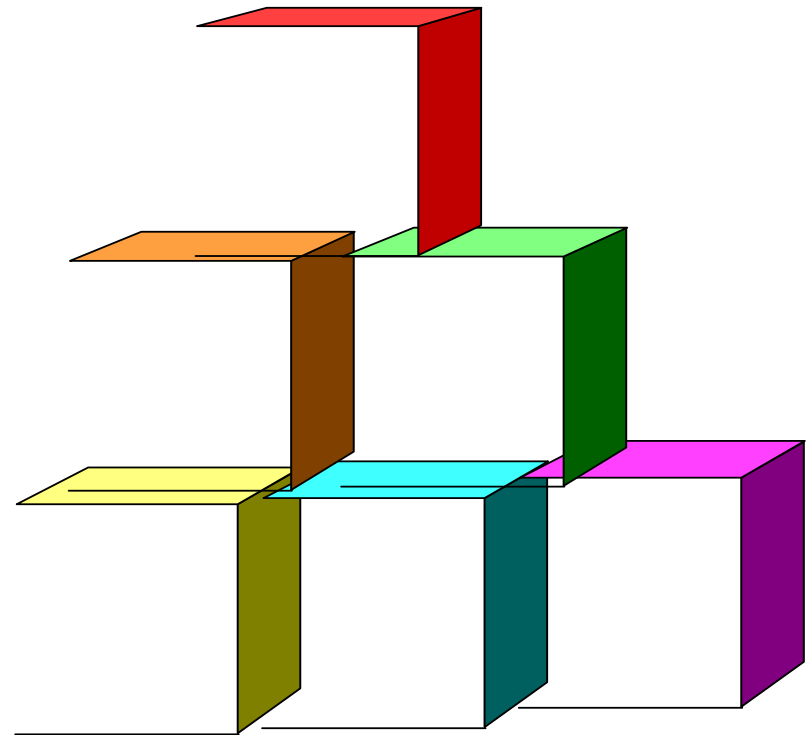


- ❑ It can help writers to organize their thoughts.
- ❑ It can help writers to avoid frustration and procrastination.
- ❑ It can help writers to use their time productively and efficiently.

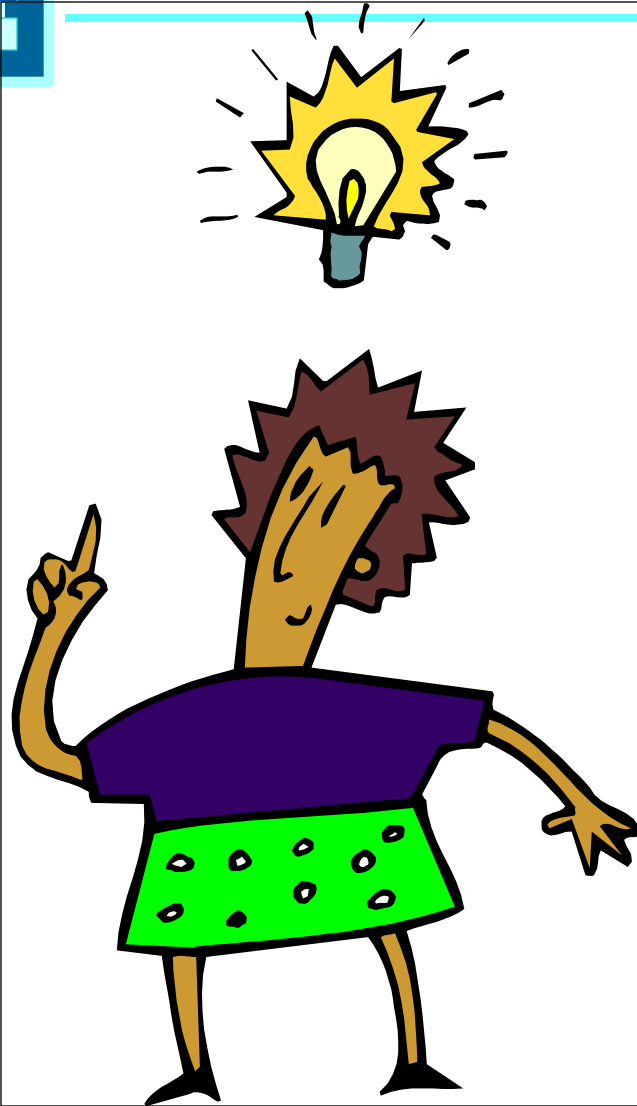
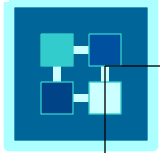
Writing process



- Invention
- Collection
- Organization
- Drafting
- Revising
- Proofreading



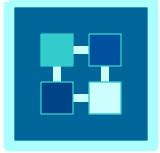
Invention: coming up with your topic



□ Brainstorming:

- ✦ Getting your ideas on paper so you can give yourself the widest range of topics possible

Brainstorming: coming up with ideas that interest you

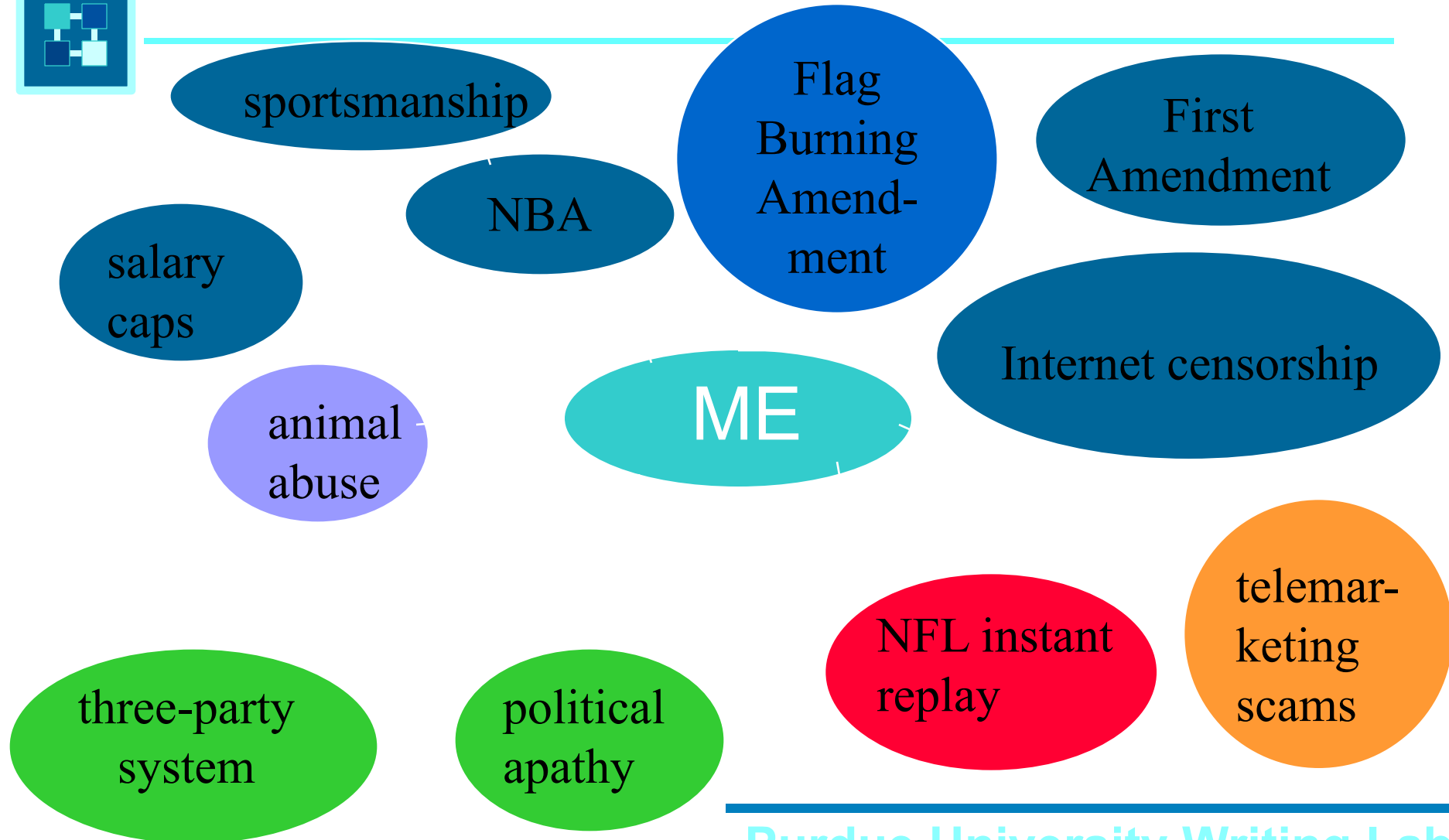
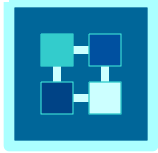


Brainstorming

Paper Topics

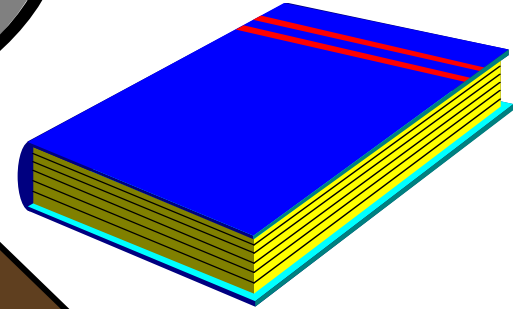
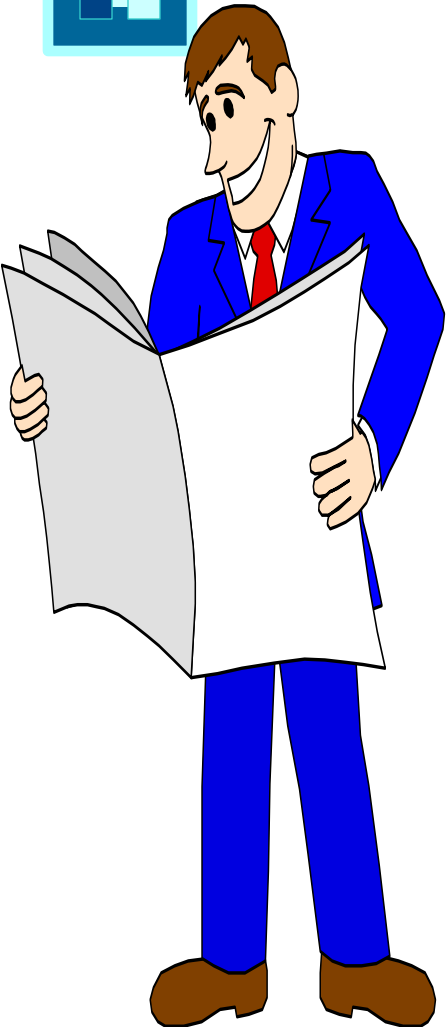
Political apathy
Animal abuse
NFL instant replay
Air pollution
Telemarketing scams
Internet censorship
NBA salary caps

Clustering: mapping out ideas

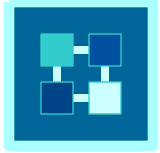


Collection

- Gathering ideas
- Locating and evaluating research
- Conducting interviews



Organizing: putting information in an outline



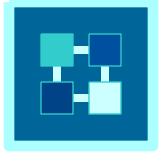
OUTLINE

- I. Introduction
 - A. Grab attention
 - B. State thesis
- II. Body
 - A. Build points
 - B. Develop ideas
 - C. Support main claim
- III. Conclusion
 - A. Reemphasize main idea

I. II. III.

Outline

Drafting



- Give yourself ample time to work on your project.
- Find a comfortable place to do your writing.
- Avoid distractions.
- Take breaks.

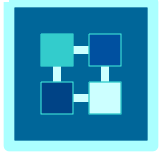


Revising: reviewing ideas



- Review higher-order concerns:
 - # Clear communication of ideas
 - # Organization of paper
 - # Paragraph structure
 - # Strong introduction and conclusion

Proofreading



□ Review later-order concerns:

- # Spelling
- # Punctuation
- # Sentence structure
- # Documentation style

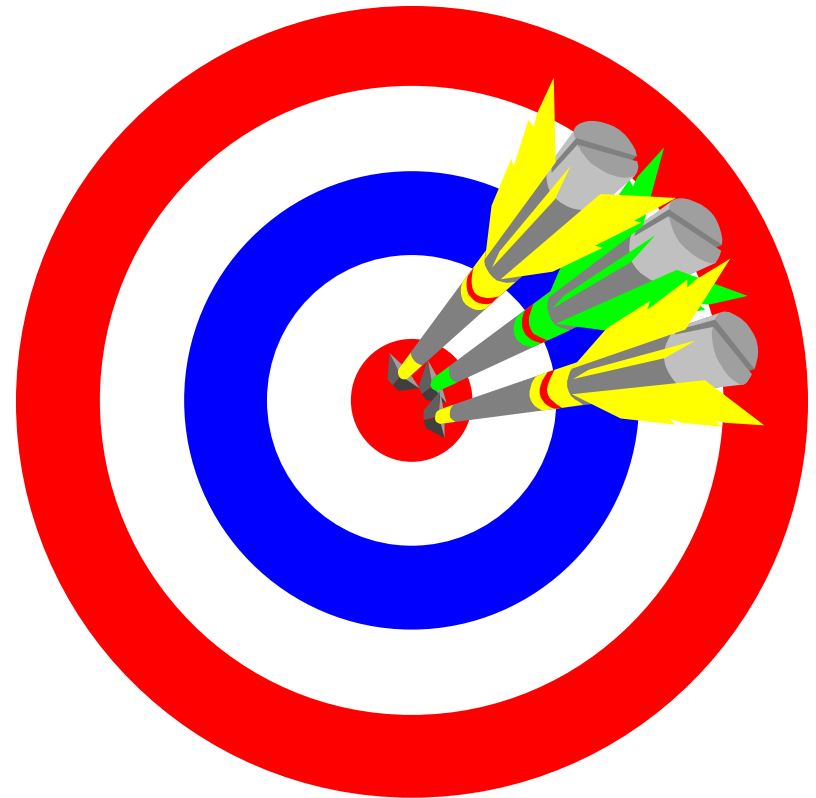
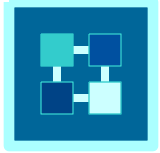


Proofreading tips

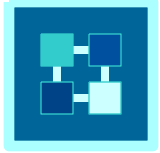


- ▣ Slowly read your paper aloud.
- ▣ Read your paper backwards.
- ▣ Exchange papers with a friend.

- ▣ NOTE: Spell check will not catch everything, and grammar checks are often wrong!



Where can you go for additional help with assignments for any class?



- ▣ Purdue University Writing Lab
- ▣ Heavilon 226
- ▣ Grammar Hotline:(765) 494-3723
- ▣ Check our web site:
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu>
- ▣ Email brief questions:
owl@owl.english.purdue.edu