**Writing the English Placement Test Essay**

**What you should know before you write the English Placement Test essay**

1. The purpose of the EPT essay
2. The structure of our placement system
   1. English courses and other placement options
   2. Percentages of students placed in each composition class
3. The amount of time given to write the essay (40 minutes)
4. The type of essay topic you will be given
5. The difference between timed and untimed writings
6. Who will evaluate your essay
7. How your essay will be evaluated

**Guidelines for writing the essay**

1. Relax and think positively about the purpose of the English placement essay.
2. Read the essay question carefully. Underline each part that asks for a specific response.
3. Give yourself at least five minutes to think and plan for your essay.
4. Make your point clearly in the first part of your essay.
5. Develop your point with adequate supporting detail.
6. Leave time to read back over what you have written. Look for obvious mistakes.
7. Don’t try to recopy your essay.
8. Don’t erase whole sentences or passages. Cross them out neatly.