Evaluating Student Writing

Pre-Writing

1. Give clear assignments. Let students know exactly what will be expected of them and how they will be evaluated.

2. Give students an evaluation sheet that specifies the weight you attribute to each aspect of the assignment. If students know what you consider important, they will focus on those areas.

3. If time permits, allow students to review each other's papers. This pre-editing may eliminate some problems before the papers are turned in for evaluation.

Post-Writing Evaluation

1. Read all the papers through quickly before you begin making evaluations. This suggestion may sound like a waste of precious time, but it can actually save you time. If the students have misunderstood the assignment, you can become aware of that fact before you've spent hours marking the same problem on every paper.

2. When you begin evaluating final drafts of assignments, allow yourself enough time to suggestion e of p1