WHAT TUTORS DO

Tutors can and should:

• Listen to your tutees’ ideas about writing assignments and help them to focus their ideas into a single workable topic.

• Ask questions to help tutees clarify and develop ideas or logic.

• Help tutees organize or reorganize their ideas into a logical order.

• Demonstrate and teach proofreading techniques so tutees learn to find and correct their own errors.

• Give honest feedback about papers -- how does the tone of the paper affect you as a reader; does the introduction arouse your interest; are you convinced by the evidence presented; does the conclusion satisfactorily close the paper, or do you still have questions or reservations?

• Limit each session to one or two skills rather than trying to produce a perfect paper.

• Help tutees develop strategies for reading more effectively and efficiently.

Tutors do not:

• Edit or fix papers.

• Rewrite sentences for your tutees.

• Impose your personal writing style on your tutee.

• Predict grades or discuss the grade an instructor assigns to a paper.

• Provide essay topics, specific ideas for those topics or organizational strategies.

• Read texts assigned to your tutee. It is neither possible, nor wise