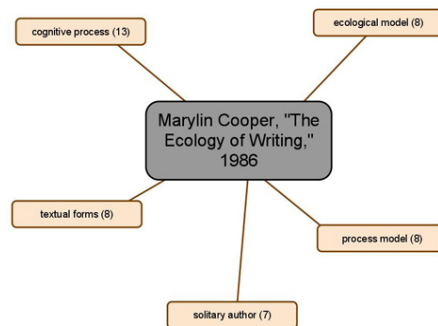


Note: Worknets were created by Dr. Derek Mueller, Director of Eastern Michigan University's First-Year Writing Program. This is just a summary of his larger work for the purpose of doing this annotation/research exercise in WRTG121.

Semantic Worknet

The semantic worknet prompts us to examine vocabulary words and phrases that appear in the article. What words or terms are most frequently used within the article? Do these words/terms seem to link up to the most important concepts being explored by the author? Are there a few instances where the author used specialized vocabulary and repeated it? These words/phrases may be useful to you, as well, as you explore, even if they are not frequently occurring words. An example of the semantic worknet is below in the squares (ignore the numbers next to the word phrases):



How do I create a semantic worknet?

To create a semantic worknet, you need to first read the entire article and underline or highlight any key terms/phrases or terms/phrases that appear multiple times. You will then create a worknet in Google Docs/Drawing or by hand that should look something like the example above. You must examine at least **four** words and/or phrases and show this by including four “word nodes” that attach to the center of the drawing.

Recommended: You could copy and paste the PDF of your entire article into a word cloud to see which words appear the most and to get perspective on any frequently-occurring words you may have missed. To do this, go to www.tagcrowd.com and paste your article's text into the text box. You will then be able to create a word cloud that displays the most commonly used words in the article. Once you've done that, I would go back and annotate the article again, on the lookout for phrases that will not be caught by the word cloud website (e.g., “solitary author” as shown in the diagram).

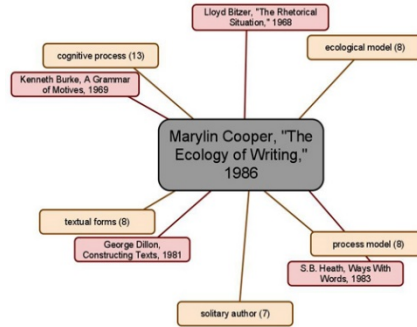
What will I write about?

In 100-200 words, you should explain the connections between the words and phrases you chose to examine and the article as a whole. Even if you are familiar with a word, look it up, define it, and look at its etymology/history while you are at it. To do this, I would suggest using the Oxford English Dictionary, which is available on the Halle Library website under the “O” databases. After

defining the terms used. Ultimately, write why you chose these words and why they are important to the text.

Bibliographic Worknet

The bibliographic worknet explores how your selected article incorporates other sources within their research. Who is your author referencing (quoting, summarizing, paraphrasing)? How many times is a specific source used? Why do you think your author used a particular source? The bibliographic worknet is seen below (in pink) in the squares that contain authors/titles/dates:



How do I create a bibliographic worknet?

To create a bibliographic worknet, read your article and underline or highlight each time the author quotes or references another article, book, etc. After highlighting these passages, match them to the works cited or references (often located at the end of the article or in footnotes). You will then add these references to your existing worknet in the same format as above (Author Name, Title, Publication Year).

Make sure to include at least **three** sources (nodes) on your drawing. In other words, if the article you chose has a long Works Cited list, you do not need to include all of them on your drawing. Choose three that you think were the most important to your understanding of the subject matter presented in the article.

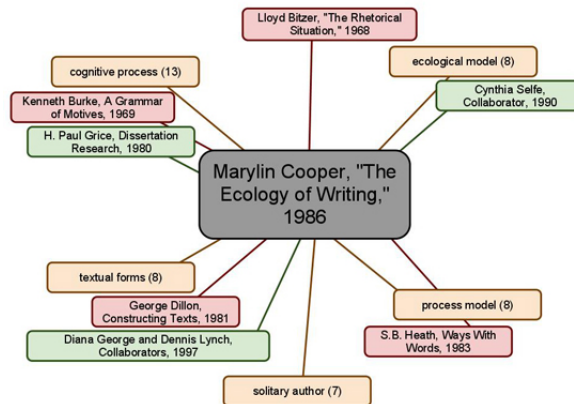
What will I write about?

In 100-200 words, you should examine how the author incorporated at least three sources into his/her article. You may also want to explain how the sources changed the meaning of the subject material and how the ideas were presented. To understand the connection, you may need to find the sources used, though it is optional for this exercise. You should be able to find many of the books/articles/websites referenced using Google searches, Google Scholar, and Hallee Library Databases.

Affinity-Based Worknet

Affinity-based worknets focus on an author's working relationships: what university did he/she attend? Where does he/she teach? Who has worked on books or articles with him/her? What collaborations and associations come into play when this person is doing research and writing?

All of our collaborations and professional relationships can have a strong influence on the work that we eventually bring forth. This worknet acknowledges the role that these affinities play.



How do I create an affinity worknet?

To create an affinity worknet, you will need to do a little searching to find information on the author of your article. Do a basic Google search for your article and the author. Does the author work at a University? Go to their college or university’s website and see if there is a bio for the instructor. See if you can find her resume or C.V. Is there a course list of courses this person has taught? Can you find articles or books by the people this author has studied with or worked with?

Read summaries or abstracts of these articles (and skim through the table of contents for books if you find them) and note the similarities/differences between the author's work and the work of their collaborators/mentors. If the author has a Ph.D., look for his/her dissertation on the Halle Library website (look under “Databases,” and find “Dissertations and Theses Full Text”) and see if the subject material is related to your article. Please create at least **four** nodes with information about the author's affinities/collaborations and attach them to the center node.

What will I write about?

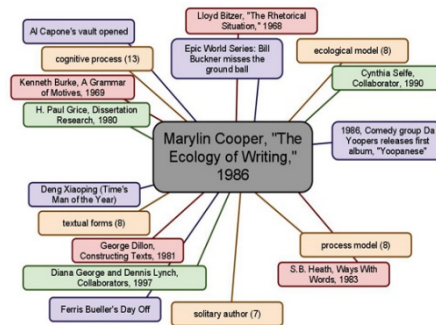
In 10-200 words, you should make connections to the author’s educational/professional background and the article. You may want to focus on other works the author wrote, where they did their research, who they worked for/under, etc. Describe at least **four** affinities/associations in your essay; these should correspond to the four nodes on your drawing.

What should the formatting for my affinity-based worknet look like?

In each square of your affinity-based worknet, you should have a person's name, their role in the author's life, and the year that the collaboration or professional association occurred (e.g., “H. Paul Grice, Dissertation Research, 1980” or “Cynthia Selfe, Collaborator, 1990”).

Choric Worknet

The choric worknet answers the question, “What was going on in the world when this article was published?” When creating a choric worknet, you will think about cultural moment that your author's article was a part of. When and where was it published? If it was published in the U.S. in 1986, what movies were being released then? What political and popular controversies were occurring? What music was popular? The choric worknet is illustrated below (e.g., “Al Capone's vault opened,” “Ferris Bueller's Day Off”):



How do I create a choric worknet?

To create an choric worknet, you will need to focus on what was going on in the U.S. during the time period your article was published. To do that, first find the date (preferably month and year) that your article was published. After finding the date, do a little research on what was going on in the world when your article was published. Think of all aspects of cultural significance. Sports, music, films, politics, history, etc. Do a basic Google search of the month and year (or just the year) your article was published. What can you find out? Try to go past the basic news and see if you can find interesting cultural moments that can **connect** to your article. In your drawing, create at least **four** nodes with different cultural events/artifacts to attach to the center circle.

What will I write about?

In 100-200 words, you should examine how the cultural events of a time period may have impacted the writing of your chosen article, and/or how the themes of your article could enrich a discussion about the cultural events you discovered. This should explain the connection you see between at least four events going on during the publication of your article and the article itself.

****Remember, worknets are all about making connections. Sometimes the connections you make may seem weird or illogical. However, it is those connections that will make your worknet interesting and fun! The choric worknet should be viewed as inventive writing: you are speculating, making guesses, and trying to create connections. You may be exploring a connection that no one has thought to explore before, and that is the point.**

What should the formatting for my choral worknet look like?

In each square of your worknet, you should briefly explain each cultural or historical event. These descriptions can vary in length, but there is no need to write complete sentences. For example, if

Ferris Bueller's Day Off was released that year, simply write "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." If World War II ended, write "World War II Ends."

The drawings in this handout are from a draft of an article by Derek Mueller, director of the First Year Writing Program at Eastern Michigan University, entitled "Mapping the Resourcefulness of Sources: A Worknet Pedagogy."