

Guide to Improving Slow Writing

First, identify WHY you are slow. The reason may be slightly different for everyone, meaning they might require different solutions. Below are a few common reasons:

- Getting stuck on one paragraph
 - Solution: Do not only set a single timer for 40 minutes. Set very very loud timers for EACH paragraph that will set off your fight or flight response and remind you that you must rush from the very beginning.
 - Allot 5 minutes for the outline and thesis, 8 minutes for each body paragraph, and 5 minutes for the introduction, and 5 minutes for conclusion. (It may be an ambitious goal but the feeling of running behind will keep you writing fast)
- Overthinking things
 - Solution: [The Most Dangerous Writing App](#). This website will delete all of your work within a couple of seconds if you stop typing. This forces you to get used to working with unpolished ideas and thinking quicker.
- Trouble finding right wording
 - Practice writing essays with a vocabulary sheet in front of you, then take it away eventually. Here is a helpful [vocabulary list](#).

Keep this on the lowkey

- If English is not your first language or... if you're just not the best writer yet (and that's totally okay!), here's a super helpful tip! (Only if you have Mrs. Ray 😊)
- Skip that intro and just hit them with your assertion! For real, I know it won't get you that perfect 6/6, but it's WAY better than panicking and ending up with a 3/6 because you couldn't finish. Just write your thesis and MOVE ON. You've got more important stuff to focus on!
- Pour everything into those body paragraphs and don't waste time crying over the conclusion. Your body paragraphs are where all the good points are anyway! Again, maybe not a perfect score, but definitely better than turning in half an essay. A complete essay with a weak conclusion > an unfinished essay with a perfect intro!

Keep this on the lowkey

- Here's the truth: no matter how hard you try, Mrs. Ray barely ever gives out a full sophistication point. And that makes sense! You're trying to read the prompt, write a whole essay, AND revise it in like no time at all! Your writing probably won't sound amazing and that's totally fine. Instead of stressing about sophistication, put your energy into crushing the other categories where you can actually rack up points!