Review the writing process

- Thinking
 - Topic sentence
 - Brainstorming
- Organizing
 - Choose good ideas
 - Make an outline
- Writing
- Revising
 - and re-revising, and re-re-revising

- If you divide the process of writing into smaller steps, each step becomes easier.
- Easier is not necessarily easy.
- Concentrate on the current step. Don't worry about the other steps yet.

- Step 1: Thinking
 - Start with a general topic.
 - Narrow this to a specific focus.
 - Write a topic sentence.

- Topic sentence
 - The main idea of the paragraph
 - Most important sentence
 - Usually the first sentence
 - Specific enough to explain completely
 - General enough to say some interesting things

- Step 1: Thinking
 - Brainstorm: Think about all the things you could say related to the topic sentence.
 - In the next step, you will choose the best ideas.

- Step 2: Organizing
 - Choose the ideas that support the topic sentence.
 - Choose ideas that all fit together.
 - Decide what order to write about these ideas.
 - Make an outline.

Use an outline!

- Makes writing better organized
- Makes writing faster
- Improves your English

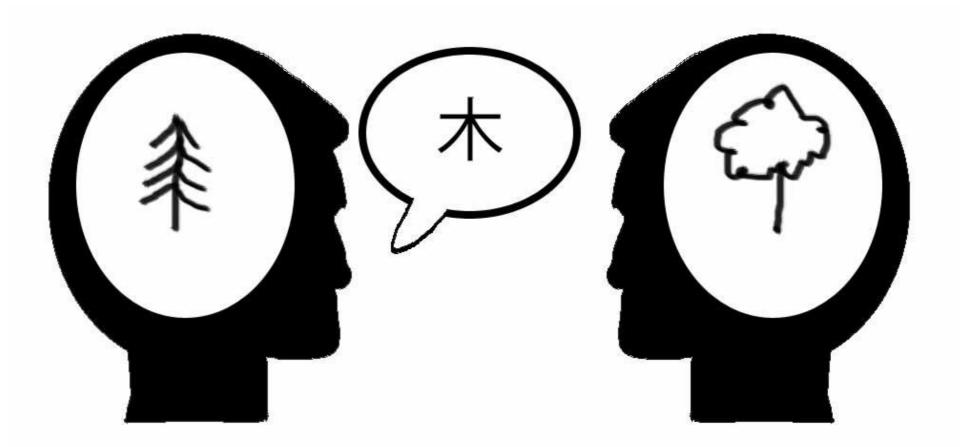
- Step 3: Writing
 - Write your ideas in English sentences.
 - Follow the outline.

- Step 4: Revising
 - Read what you wrote and think about how it could be even better.
 - Write it again with those changes.

Revising and editing

- Minor revisions: fix small mistakes or add information
- Major revisions: go back to thinking and organizing to make the paragraph clearer
- After you revise, read it again.
- Grammar is the *least* important thing, but do fix mistakes if you find them.

Language is a tool



Language is a tool

- Language is a way to share your ideas.
- The most important thing is to have ideas.
- Language is not a perfect way to share ideas, but it is one tool we have.
- There is no perfect English. Do your best, but don't be afraid to fail.

Skills are transferable

- We have practiced academic English.
 - Think about your specific message.
 - Communicate it as clearly as you can.
 - Support your point.
 - Think about your reader.

Skills are transferable

- These skills are also useful in other settings.
 - Writing longer papers
 - Writing emails
 - Speaking in formal settings
 - Writing in Japanese (for some purposes)

Don't be afraid to fail

- The only way to improve a skill is to practice.
- Don't be afraid to struggle until you can do it.
 - 「100回トライして99回失敗していい。」本田宗一郎

From now on

- If you keep practicing, you will keep improving.
- If you pretend you are good at English, soon you will be good at English.