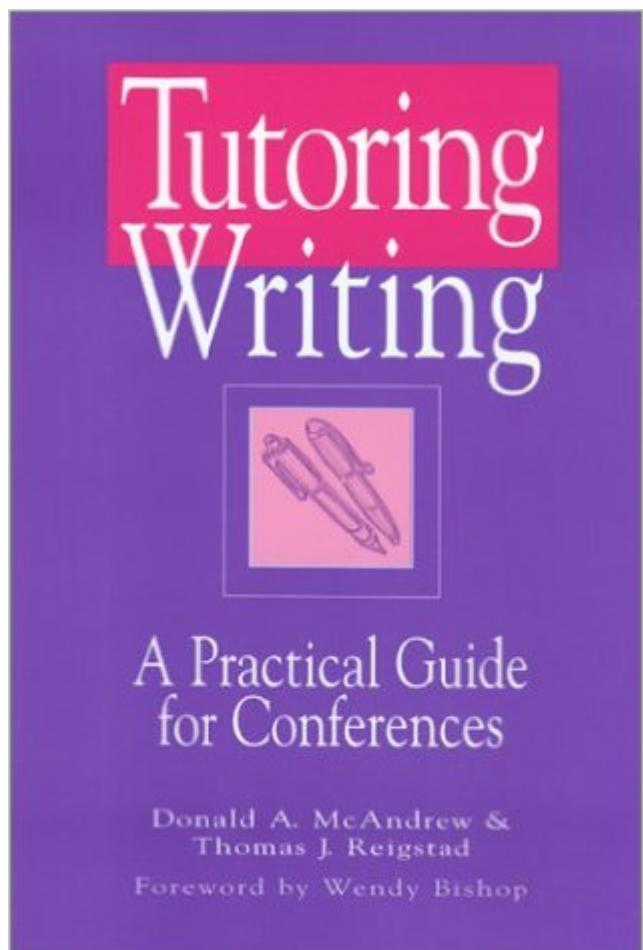


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# Tutoring Writing: A Practical Guide For Conferences



## **Synopsis**

When Don McAndrew and Tom Reigstad wrote *Training Tutors for Writing Conferences*, they provided such unique insight into the principles and practices of tutoring that the book was awarded "Best Publication" by the National Writing Centers Association. Now, more than a decade later, the authors have expanded and updated their classic monograph to make it even more useful and reflect new developments in research and theory. No other book is quite so comprehensive. In addition to providing a thorough review of theory and research, *Tutoring Writing* offers a rich toolbox of tutoring tips, including: practical guidelines for tutoring writers who are at various stages of the composing process - including predraft concrete advice on how to tutor writers in specific settings suggestions on how to tutor writers who present special challenges and represent diverse populations time-tested tutoring models that have been developed by world-renowned educators recommendations for conducting tutorials electronically - including online, fax, and phone a syllabus for using the book to teach a writing tutor training course. *Tutoring Writing* will appeal to anyone who uses writing as a tool for learning, especially in tutor-training courses, undergraduate and graduate level writing courses, and teaching-assistant preparation courses.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I've used this book for a few years for tutor training, and I find it to be an excellent book. It starts out fairly slowly, and then it builds on previous chapters. In fact, on some occasions, because of time constraints and (sudden!)staffing shortages, I've simply handed the book to a new tutor and said, "read this." I have no idea where the "feminist agenda" is that the other reviewer mentions.

Wonderful book for new tutors. I bought this book as a requirement for a writing class that taught me to be a writing tutor at my college. The book teaches the basics of a writing tutor, and includes examples and suggestions on pre-writing techniques, revision techniques, proofreading, working with students and more. Prior to this class and reading this book, I was very nervous about tutoring writing, but afterwards, I felt fully prepared and confident in my ability to be a tutor and help others with their writing. I am sure it was not this book alone, but it did contribute to my learning and understanding of tutoring writing.

I've used this book to train tutors, and it is one of the better books out there for the purpose. Not only is it easy to read and understand (in other words, it is accessible even to undergraduate tutors), but it also supplies a wealth of research, theory, and history of the best tutoring writing practices. My favorite chapter is near the end of the book where the authors provide short sections highlighting tutorial advice from masters like Muriel Harris, Peter Elbow, Donald Murray, and Nancy Atwell. What the previous reviewer may not have understood is that the authors were merely reporting the impact of feminist theory and research on the field of tutoring writing. Any intense reading of composition academic journals would show that, yes, feminist theory has had an incredible impact on the evolving understanding of best practices in the teaching of writing, in general, and in tutoring writing, specifically. As in everything, a field of study develops from a conversation. The feminist contribution to that conversation in composition studies has been a rich one. The authors would have been remiss to leave it out of their overview of tutoring writing. Great book overall. I highly recommend it.

Tutoring Writing by Donald A. McAndrew & Thomas Reigstad is a composite of methods in tutoring students in writing. At first, the book was good. It summarized my college education (my degree is in English and Education). It's always good to read about methods. As I read on, it read like a college term paper from a B plus student. It was concise, reviewed well, but... (the "but" kept showing up in my mind when I read it). Finally, the marker of bad writing came to pass. "Feminism." The scar of leftist agenda took over the book with an entire cry of how women (sepcifically "feminism") teaches us the best way to tutor teaching. Feminism is a political dance and has nothing to do with good writing. It would be the same as saying "Conservatives teach good writing methods because, by nature, they..." which would be just as false. Too bad the education world can't teach reality and just rely on leftist agenda to produce. It could have been a good book.

Very Helpful for either studying or in the education field.

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