Tips For Each Stage Of Writing

Prewrite
Use one of the following methods to explore the topic and create a thesis statement
- List: Using bullet points, write down any thoughts that relate to the topic
- Free write: Using sentences, write down any thoughts that relate to the topic
- Brainstorm bubble: Using circles, write down any thoughts that relate to the topic
- Ask questions: e.g., who, what, where, when, why, how
- Use lenses: e.g., medical, social, legal, environmental, religious

Outline
- Preliminary and detailed research are needed for the outline
- Adapt the thesis to match the research findings
- A strong outline will create a more effective writing experience

Write
- Each topic represents a section of the paper; write one section at a time
- Each paragraph is not an isolated point; each paragraph is a part of the whole. Make clear connections between your thesis, topic, development point, and proof
- Strong connections will create a more effective reading experience

Introduction paragraph
1st section: General statements
- Purpose: To introduce the topic/create interest/prepare the reader
  - Use one or a combination of the following techniques: background information, story, analogy, quotation, question, statistic, key term/definition
2nd section: Thesis statement
- Purpose: To announce the objective of your essay
  - Make it clear, specific, informative, and/or original

Body paragraphs
Topic sentence: Write a sentence that tells what the paragraph is about and connect it to the thesis statement
Supporting sentence/Development point: Explain an idea/theory/event about this topic
Specific support/Proof: Support the idea with examples/facts/studies
(repeat the development and proof process for as long as necessary to support the topic)
Concluding sentence (optional): Write a sentence that links the supporting sentences and topic to the thesis (do not include your specific support/proof in this sentence)
Conclusion paragraph
1st section: Summary of the thesis and topics
   - Clearly connect the thesis to the topics
2nd section: Final comments
   - Suggest or ask from the reader one or a combination of the following: awareness, actions, solutions, predictions, recommendations, consequences

Edit (four stages)
1. Argument
   - Look at the presentation of the argument to ensure that you clearly state your objective and address order, development, and coherence
2. Language rules - spelling, capitalization, grammar, syntax, and punctuation
   - Look for and correct errors in English language writing norms
3. Citation
   - Examine and correct in-text citations (quotations, paraphrases, summaries) and reference page for proper citation style (e.g., APA, MLA, Chicago)
4. Overview
   - Review for flow of argument, use of language rules, and adherence to citation style

References: