



Four Column Method

Critical Reading, Thinking, and Writing

What do I need to know to answer this question?	What do I have to do to answer the question?	What will my answer include?	How can I improve my answer?
<p>Brainstorming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The student writes down what comes to mind as he/she reads the question. •There is no right/wrong answer. •Stimulates long-term memory. <p>This helps open long-term memory and establishes the language of the student response (critical vocabulary)</p>	<p>Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student lists everything that must be done to complete the answer (# of tasks—a list) <p>This establishes parameters for a proficient manner in terms of content, process(es) and amounts. It helps to have students number tasks/requirements so they can check off elements in the written answer.</p>	<p>Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For each entry in column II the student notes what he/she will include in his/her answer. There is a one-to-one correspondence with column II. • Teaches students to write to embedded rubric of tasks - adult thinking. <p>This provides an outline for an answer that covers all the parts of the question. The student must remember that an SRE response is required in many answers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Statement S •Reasons R •Evidence E 	<p>Critique</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encourage self-assessment, we must provide practice in evaluating and improving work. The goal is to get the student to examine his/her own work and propose at least one improvement. <p>This helps build reflective habits of mind that are critical to success on high level tasks.</p>

Critical Reading
 These tasks ensure that the student interprets his/her tasks accurately They establish what must be included in a proficient response.

Critical Thinking
 These tasks ensure that the student designs an answer that meets the requirements for proficiency. Column IV prompts the student to evaluate the design and try to improve it