**Writer’s Notebook 2-6: Analytic Writing**

Now that you have some idea of your topic (or topic area) there are several steps you can take to get started writing. Please use pages 239-242 in *Joining the Conversation* to help you through these steps. Respond to each of the prompts in your WNB. **Be sure to label your responses and write out complete answers.**

1. **Ask Interpretive Questions**

Read p. 236 in *Joining the Conversation.* Think about your topic and what you want to know about it. In your WNB, write your topic, then try writing a few interpretive questions about your topic. Shoot for 3-5.

1. **Resources: Searching Databases**

Read pp. 237-240. In your WNB, make a list of any resources, including data bases you will want to use, to write your essay. If you want to use your phone to do some preliminary searching, you can do that.

1. **Seek a Fuller Understanding of Your Topic**

AS you get to know more about your topic, you will refine your inquiry or interpretive question. For now, brainstorm what you already know and what you need to know in a way that helps you think more deeply about organizing your thoughts.

Read pp. 240-242. Decide whether the question that is driving your analysis requires **division** or **classification.** In your WNB, write a paragraph about which you think is more useful for your analysis. Explain why division or classification is what you will need to do. Use the language from pp. 240-242 to help you explain.

1. **Draw a Cluster Map**

In your WNB, draw a cluster map of your ideas for your analysis so far. See p. 83 in *EAA* for an example of what a cluster map might look like.