

# SAMPLE DISCUSSION POST:

## UNIT 1

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Please note that this is a **sample** Discussion post to help inspire and guide your own original writing of the assignment. Your assignment does not need to look exactly like the sample, as this sample is just a possible response to the assignment prompt. Be sure to review the reading and grading rubric, complete each task in the instructions, and contact the instructor with any questions.

### DISCUSSION POST:

This is my second term at and I am working toward a degree in health sciences. In my spare time (not that I have much of that!), I enjoy cooking. I do not consider myself a “writer,” but I keep a journal and do enjoy writing on social media sites and sending emails to my family and friends. I am hoping that this class will make me more comfortable with writing in formal situations and integrating research into my writing.

I love to cook, so I selected the *Foodess* blog as my example of effective communication. Pallian’s (2013) site has lovely photographs of food and brief descriptions of her reasons for selecting certain foods to highlight in her posts. Her writing style is conversational and occasionally does not follow formal punctuation conventions, but the grammar follows Standard American English guidelines, and Pallian’s less formal style actually convinces me that I, too, could cook these recipes. Some food writers have such complicated ways of explaining techniques that I never believe I could duplicate their efforts, so I believe that her style helps her to reach her audience more effectively. Pallian’s writing is effective because it achieves the purpose of writing found in the archived workshop “Hallmarks of Effective Writing,” which is “to communicate meaning to an audience” (Hood, 2011, slide 4). She knows her audience is not all professional chefs, and she writes her recipes accordingly.

### References

- Hood, R. (2012, September 13). Hallmarks of effective writing [PowerPoint slides]. Retrieved from <https://kucampus.kaplan.edu/DocumentStore/Docs11/pdf/WC/HallmarksofEffectiveWritingRMHSept13Notes.pdf>
- Pallian, J. (2013, August 9). Pureed white bean soup with bacon and roasted cherry tomatoes [Blog post]. Retrieved from <http://foodess.com/2013/08/pureed-white-bean-soup-with-bacon-and-roasted-cherry-tomatoes/>

Please note that this is a **sample** Discussion response to help inspire and guide your own responses to classmates. Your response does not need to look exactly like the sample, as this

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**RESPONSE POST:**

Hi Amy,

You mentioned the Pallian blog as an example of effective writing; what are some other writers you enjoy reading and find effective? I just finished a wonderful article by a guy who bought a house in Detroit for \$500; his vivid descriptions of a decaying urban landscape and his interactions with his new neighbors really exemplified Avery's strategies for effective writing (Philip, 2014).

The KUWC resource "Honing Word Choice: Tips for College-Level Diction" offers great tips for making our writing more engaging and appropriate for class posts and work-related documents (Avery, 2011). The tip that could apply to both formal and informal writing, though, was my favorite; Avery (2011, p. 2) reminds readers to make their writing more vivid through the use of "word-pictures." I occasionally write poems and short stories, and suggestions like that are helpful for creative writers, too.

Sam

References

- Avery, D. (2011). Honing word choice: Tips for college-level diction. Retrieved from [https://kucampus.kaplan.edu/DocumentStore/Docs11/pdf/WC/HoningWordChoice\\_v4\\_22Mar2011\\_1.pdf](https://kucampus.kaplan.edu/DocumentStore/Docs11/pdf/WC/HoningWordChoice_v4_22Mar2011_1.pdf)
- Philip, D. (2014, January 9). Why I bought a house in Detroit for \$500. Retrieved from <http://www.buzzfeed.com/drewphilp/why-i-bought-a-house-in-detroit-for-500>