

## CM107 Discussion Board Sample Post

Unit 2 Discussion Board  
INITIAL POST

Author, title, publication and link to the publication	Genre (informal, formal, professional)	What is the topic of the document?	What question about the topic is the document answering?	What are some ways the writer answers the question?	Who is the author(s) writing this document for specifically?	What is effective about the way it is written?
Mary, Teaching with a Mountain View	Informal blog	Teaching tips?	How can teachers create good online lessons?	Personal experience, examples	Other teachers	Very personal, good examples, shows how to create lessons.

I read an informal blog called <https://www.teachingwithamountainview.com/>. It is written to fellow teachers and each blog post deals with a specific topic or problem that the audience faces and needs help with. The specific post I read answers the question, How can teachers create good online lessons if they don't have much experience? The writer answers that question by sharing her personal experience with creating lessons and sharing some examples of good lessons.

What's effective is that her examples are specific and she shows how the lessons are helpful and easy to create. I also like the fact that it seems very personal and easy to read and that the information is organized really clearly into different types of lessons the audience can use in the virtual classroom. The Unit 2 Reading material says that having a clear purpose is important to effective writing and this writer clearly establishes her main point early on and motivates her audience to use her advice.

What do you think about the informal language she uses? I like it but isn't most writing supposed to be formal?

Thanks,  
Marshall

RESPONSE TO INITIAL POST:

Hi Marshall,

That's a great blog post, and I think you're right that the intended audience is teachers, but maybe it's specifically elementary school teachers who need help with transitioning to teaching students online. The Unit 2 reading material indicates that the more specific our intended audience is and the more we know about them, the more likely we will write effectively. In this case, I think that's why the writer uses informal language. First person is very appropriate in a blog like this. I can't imagine the intended audience wanting to read a research article that sounds like something they couldn't understand, anyway. I know if I were a teacher struggling with teaching in a new environment, I would want sensible, helpful information and I think this blog does that. What do you think about the various examples? Are they all clear and as easy sounding as the writer makes them out to be?

Good luck with your Unit 2 Assignment.

Caleb