

SEVENTH  
EDITION

US

# Evergreen

A GUIDE TO WRITING  
WITH READINGS

*Susan Fawcett*



A stylized, dark evergreen branch with needle-like leaves is positioned on the left side of the cover, extending from the bottom towards the top. It casts a series of soft, light gray shadows onto the background, creating a layered effect.

# Evergreen:

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## **A Guide to Writing With Readings**

Seventh Edition

Susan Fawcett

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# Preface

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*"Evergreen works."* Again and again, I hear this comment from instructors and students alike, and I consider it the greatest possible compliment. Based on my years of classroom experience at Bronx Community College of the City University of New York, *Evergreen* is designed for students who need to improve the writing skills so necessary to success in college and in most careers. The text's clear, paced lessons, inspiring student and professional models, high-interest practices, and varied writing assignments have guided nearly two million students through the process of writing effectively, from prewriting to final draft. In 2000, the Sixth Edition of *Evergreen with Readings* won the McGuffey Award for sustained excellence—a prize given by the Text and Academic Authors Association.

In this exciting Seventh Edition, I have thoroughly reviewed and updated the text, guided by the thoughtful suggestions of faculty across the country and by the kinds of academic and job-related challenges our students face. My goal has been to take an excellent book and make it more motivating, useful, and engaging than ever before.

Specifically, I have added a critical-thinking group assignment to every rhetorical paragraph chapter and placed web sites selectively throughout the text for further review, practice, and exploration. *Evergreen's* reading selections have been significantly freshened with nine provocative contemporary essays, now combined with favorites retained from the last edition. As always, I have replaced numerous models and content-based practices with new subject matter intended to spark and hold students' interest as they learn. Other improvements include a livelier and more engaging Chapter 1; a new section on misplaced modifiers; a clearer sentence fragment review chart; more mixed-error proofreading exercises in Chapter 37; more humor throughout; and upgraded photographs, cartoons, and other visuals. An important change is the addition of a new chapter on research.

Instructors who use *Evergreen* divide—passionately—on whether or not to teach research in this course. After much thought, I have created a flexible, two-chapter approach that allows instructors to bypass research altogether, teach some research skills, or teach an essay enriched with one or more sources. I have revised Chapter 17 on summarizing and quoting to include more practice on avoiding plagiarism. A new brief Chapter 18, "Strengthening an Essay with Research," guides students through the process of improving an essay with research—bolstered by interesting practices.



## Special Features of *Evergreen with Readings*, Seventh Edition

- **New Critical-Thinking Activity for Every Rhetorical Mode.** A collaborative feature—*Thinking and Writing Together*—is now the final practice in every chapter of Unit 3, *Developing the Paragraph*. Here students apply the rhetorical strategy just learned to a problem, set of facts, or visual image. They might narrate an experience of stereotyping, contrast gender-targeted toys, illustrate random acts of kindness, or evaluate the persuasive humor in a spoof Big Mac ad.
- **New Exploring Online feature.** Selected web sites provide an option for online review, practice, or discovery. For example, one or two top OWL (online writing lab) sites conclude each grammar chapter. Quality web sites also follow each *Thinking and Writing Together* activity and selected practices, on such topics as endangered species, how movies are classified, Van Gogh's *Starry Night*, and qualities of a team player.
- **Flexible New Research Coverage.** Now instructors may include as little or as much research instruction as they wish. Chapter 17, "Special College Skills: Summary and Quotation," has been revised with more instruction and practice on avoiding plagiarism. In addition, a new, friendly Chapter 18, "Strengthening an Essay with Research," builds on these research "sub-skills," applying them to library and Internet research. Chapter 18 guides students through the basics of finding and evaluating outside sources, adding them to an essay, and documenting them correctly. Enjoyable practices, boxes showing one student's research process, and her sample essay on campus credit card debt all help students master useful research skills.
- **60 Percent New Reading Selections.** Based on feedback from faculty and students, Unit 8 has been extensively freshened with nine strong and eloquent readings. New to this edition are Eric Taub on obnoxious cell-phone users, Janet Wu on reuniting with her grandmother, Mario Vargas Llosa on smokers' lawsuits, Beth Wald on rock climbing, Dave Barry on fitness, Susan Hopkins on "girl heroes," Michael Levin on the controversial case for torture, Karen Castellucci Cox on consumer fads, and Ian Frazier on a young athlete's social courage. Readers' favorite selections from the last edition—those rated most thought-provoking and appealing—have been kept.
- **75 New High-Interest Models and Practices.** Engaging models and content-based practice sets are vital to *Evergreen's* effectiveness. Fresh subjects include the birth of video games, Dr. Seuss, pet cloning, the growth of *Monster.com*, writer Oscar Hijuelos, birth order and personality, online versus traditional courses, actress Lea Salonga, flashbulb memories, CEO Maria Elena Ibanez, the Youth Orchestra of Venezuela, Cirque du Soleil, the first African American woman in space, humor as a career asset, a Chinese wedding banquet, athletic dolls that rival Barbie, the American Freshman survey, and Dominican baseball stars.
- **Other Enriched Instruction.** Chapter 1 has been revised to engage students more quickly—through new practices, an emphasis on writing as a means to job success, humor, and a contemporary visual to analyze for subject, audience, and purpose. As requested by instructors, a section on misplaced and confusing modifiers has been added as Part E of Chapter 21, "Revising for Sentence Variety," and more mixed-error proofreading exercises are offered in Chapter 37.

Six types of sentence fragments are now discussed, and a clear new review chart has been added.

- **More Humor and More Contemporary Visuals.** Humor can lighten the composition classroom and serve an instructional purpose. For example, Internet dating disasters, the comedians of *Saturday Night Live*, and real-life bloopers from résumés and job-application letters form the subject matter of new proof-reading exercises. Students are invited to analyze and write about a number of new cartoons on contemporary topics, photos, paintings, and a witty *New Yorker* cover.

## Extensive Ancillary Package

Available on adoption of the text, the following ancillaries expand the instructor's teaching options. New with this edition are several exciting offerings designed specifically for use with *Evergreen*. *EverWrite* is a CD-ROM with hundreds of uniquely practical writing-process, rhetorical, and grammatical exercises, providing students with lots of extra support. In addition, PowerPoint slides are provided to enhance classroom presentations and create key student handouts. Now two *Evergreen* web sites are available—one for faculty and one for students. The popular, updated *Evergreen Community* (a resource allowing users to exchange ideas about teaching with *Evergreen*) can be accessed online through the faculty site and in a new print edition.

### ■ Instructor's Annotated Edition

- **New! *EverWrite* CD-ROM** created for *Evergreen*, with 120 interactive writing-process and rhetorical exercises, plus 350 grammar practices to hone students' skills
- **New! Extensive PowerPoint Slide Package** for classroom use
- **Evergreen Web Site for Faculty**, with additional Mastery and Diagnostics tests, links, plus the *Evergreen Community*, a resource for sharing teaching ideas
- **New! Evergreen Web Site for Students**, with writing tips, links to OWLs, and other resources
- **Evergreen Community**, a print compendium of successful classroom strategies contributed by instructors who use the text—also available online.

## Organization of the Text

*Evergreen's* self-contained chapters and units can be taught in any order. Unit 1 provides an overview of the writing process, audience, and purpose and then introduces five prewriting techniques. Unit 2 guides students through the paragraph-writing process: planning, writing topic sentences, generating ideas, organizing, making smooth transitions, and revising. Unit 3 moves on to the

rhetorical modes most often required in college writing (illustration, narration, description, process, definition, comparison/contrast, classification, cause/effect, and persuasion). In Unit 4, the techniques of paragraph writing are applied step by step to the process of writing essays, summarizing and quoting from sources, strengthening an essay with research, and answering essay examination questions. Unit 5 covers the more subtle skills of revising for consistency, sentence variety, and language awareness. Unit 6 thoroughly reviews basic grammar, highlighting such major problem areas as verbs, sentence boundaries, punctuation, and mechanics; Unit 7 covers spelling and homonyms. In Unit 8, the instructor can choose from fifteen richly varied, thought-provoking reading selections by such authors as Sandra Cisneros, Brent Staples, Anna Quindlen, and Alice Walker. Each selection is accompanied by a headnote, glosses, critical-thinking questions, and writing assignments, some of them collaborative. A Quotation Bank—a mini-reader of great short quotations for student use—concludes the text.

*Evergreen with Reading's* full range of materials and flexible organization adapt easily to almost any course design and to a wide range of student needs. Because each chapter is self-contained, the text also works well for tutorials, laboratory work, and self-teaching.

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In addition, Ann Marie Radaskiewicz helped with high-quality research, writing, and troubleshooting, always with her characteristic professionalism and good cheer. Karen Castellucci Cox of City College of San Francisco generously shared her instructional ideas, research approaches, and love of teaching; her entertaining essay on the consumers who fuel popular trends appears in this edition. Sandra K. Hall of Corning Community College and Linda Perry contributed the useful visual, “Building Blocks to Effective Persuasion,” that augments instruction in Chapter 14.

To the English Department faculty—in particular, Chair Frederick De Naples—and to the students of Bronx Community College, I owe a debt of gratitude. Many of the excellent student paragraphs and essays in this book were written in BCC classrooms.

I am deeply grateful to Arthur Jacobs and John Burleigh, my excellent attorneys, whose support and expertise helped make this edition of *Evergreen* possible.

My husband, Richard Donovan, contributed at every level to *Evergreen*—suggesting topics and readings, making sure my sports references are up-to-date, discussing (for the third time, with absolute focus) which of two approaches would better help our students, and even copying and collating pages at midnight when a deadline loomed.

Finally, I dedicate this edition of *Evergreen* to the dear friends who believe in my writing but lovingly remind me to take care of myself. Without them, life would lose so much joy, juice, luster, and love—in particular, Maggie Smith, Pamela Tudor, Sondra Zeidenstein, Trisha Nelson, Colleen Fix, Stuart Huff, Bryan Hoffman, Eleanor Caracciolo, Doris Rudnick, Carole Stone, my mother Harriet Fawcett, and my brother David Fawcett.

S.F.



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# Evergreen:

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## **A Guide to Writing With Readings**

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# Getting Started

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**CHAPTER 1 Exploring the Writing Process**

**CHAPTER 2 Prewriting to Generate Ideas**

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