

**Title of Session:** Writing for Webheads

**Moderator:** Margaret Doty

**Title of File:** 20030628 wia

**Date:** June 28, 2003

# Tappedin transcript 2003.06.28 09:58:42

Room: ASO

BJ: the discussion leader just logged in

BJ: she's on her way

CorrinP: Thanks BJ

MargaretD joined the room.

BJ hugs Maggi

BJ hands the virtual mic over to Maggi

MargaretD: Hello everyone

BJ: we usually start all the discussions in Tapped In with introductions...

BJ: it helps us to build community

AnneLS: I'm Anne. I'm finishing my credential program in three weeks and coming here and exploring this website is one of my final assignments

BJ: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

CorrinP: I'm Corrin, I just recently received my credential from SDSU

TallisonL: My name is Tali.... I am almost finished with my credential at SDSU

BJ: hi, David. We're doing introductions

SusanCon: I am taking EDTEC570 at SDSU and need to attend a Tapped In session as part of our requirements. I'm not a teacher

CorrinP: congrats to all of you almost done

MargaretD: All teachers in the making...:-)

CorrinP: me too ED tech 570

KristiGuest2: I'm Kristi finishing my Clear Credential with EdTec 570 at SDSU

JoAnneGuest3: I'm JoAnne, I'm in the same credential program as Anne and Tali, taking an educational technology class.

AkiraBo: I'm Akira. It's my last semester in the credential program at SDSU.

TallisonL: It sounds like most of us are in the same class :)

DavidPr: Greeting all, I'm taking a ed tech course at SNC in WI

SusanCon: And all waited till the last minute for this assignment :-)

MargaretD: What sort of assignment are you sent here for?

TallisonL: We need to participate in a chat and then share the information with other people in the class.

KristiGuest2: same

VanceS joined the room.

VanceS: hi all

BJ: Hi, Vance. We're just doing introductions

MargaretD: I'm a freelance Business English trainer and a founding Webhead.

DavidPr: Just interested in the title and what is a webhead?

VanceS: I'm a founding webhead too

AkiraBo: That sounds interesting Margaret

MargaretD: A member of the community.

VanceS: <http://www.homestead.com/prosites-vstevens/files/efi/webheads.htm>

BJ: click on that hyperlink to open a new web window MargaretD: Teachers and students from all over the world.

VanceS: are there always so many here on Saturdays?

MargaretD: You can call me Maggi.

MargaretD: Lately, yes Vance.

VanceS: that's great

CorrinP: it's all for our ed tech assignment

VanceS: great, what's the assignment

AkiraBo: How often do all of you tapped in?

MargaretD: online teaching tools?

CorrinP: we are to join a tapped in session and summarize it

TallisonL: The whole class is about utilizing internet resources

MargaretD: Webheads meets regularly on Sundays.

AnneLS: our Ed Tech class is huge and we're all required to attend at least one session on Tapped in so that might be why it's been so busy lately MargaretD: Many members use web cams and voice.

AkiraBo: How do you like using the web cams and voice?

VanceS: We do it on Yahoo or iVisit

VanceS: that's web cam

MargaretD: most are thrilled to be able to hear and see those they are talking to.

VanceS: voice on Wimba or Yahoo Messenger

CorrinP: it seems like such a cool idea

VanceS: here, this is how: <http://www.homestead.com/prosites-vstevens/files/efi/software.htm>

MargaretD: It is when you share a class for example, with students in China.

SusanCon: Do you have bandwidth issues? In some of our classes, it seems that things get fouled up when too many people use voice or video

AkiraBo: Most of my class members have not introduced to web cam or where to find it so I will let them know about it. It's great for a international program.

MargaretD: Most are using their private computers.

VanceS: where are you guys located, on the globe?

CorrinP: San Diego

TallisonL: San Diego

JoAnneGuest3: San Diego

SusanCon: San Diego

MargaretD: In the US, Vance.

DavidPr: Green Bay

VanceS: Interesting I may be headed that way in a couple of months

KristiGuest2: San Diego

AnneLS: San Diego

CorrinP: it's beautiful here

VanceS: that's where Bernie Dodge is from

TallisonL: He is our teacher (one of them)

CorrinP: yep, he's our teacher

AkiraBo: Dido. But I often travel and it sounds like it's something that I could use.  
SusanCon: What a coincidence, we're in his class  
VanceS: my son just got accepted at Irvine and I lost my job in Abu Dhabi  
VanceS: so we may all head out there  
CorrinP: congrats on your son's acceptance to Irvine  
VanceS: cool, Maggi is a great Webquest fan, me too, but she's more experienced  
AnneLS: our next assignment is to create a webquest  
CorrinP: unfortunately  
MargaretD: My students in one company love them.  
AkiraBo: who's doing their webquest solo? it's hard.  
SusanCon: Are your students adults then?  
VanceS: I've got to run actually  
CorrinP: bye Vance  
VanceS: nice to meet people from San Diego, think you might be back next Sat?  
VanceS: I may not be come to think of it  
DavidPr: Our class did a webquest yesterday, it was great fun!  
TallisonL: Goodbye Vance.. thanks for talking  
CorrinP: after fourth of July....not sure  
AnneLS: hopefully it might be hard after the 4th though...  
VanceS: well let me give you one more URL  
MargaretD: Young adults in a training position or at University?  
AkiraBo: not sure. later Vance.  
AnneLS: university training program  
VanceS: This is our teacher group:  
[http://www.geocities.com/vance\\_stevens/papers/evonline2002/webheads.htm](http://www.geocities.com/vance_stevens/papers/evonline2002/webheads.htm)  
VanceS: check us out  
AnneLS: we'll all have our credentials in a few weeks if not already  
SusanCon: I have been more interested in adult type training, but this class has been geared more towards k-12  
VanceS: join us here if you like: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/evonline2002\\_webheads](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/evonline2002_webheads)  
VanceS: ok, gotta run  
VanceS positions himself on carpet  
MargaretD: bye, Vance  
VanceS sprinkles magic dust  
GinnyF joined the room.  
VanceS left the room (signed off).  
GinnyF: hi everyone!  
TallisonL: Hi Ginny  
BJ: Hi, Ginny! You made it  
GinnyF: I did it corrin...  
AkiraBo: hi ginnyf!  
KristiGuest2: hi  
MargaretD: Hi Ginny...please introduce yourself.  
AnneLS: hi Ginny!!!  
DavidPr: Welcome Ginny!  
MargaretD: Seems everyone else knows you though.

GinnyF: Hi....Let me introduce myself....I am taking edtech through SDSU....to get my clear cred...I just finished student teaching and I am looking for a job. :)

CorrinP: Hello Ginny.....glad you found us

GinnyF: Hi

MargaretD: How is the job market there?

CorrinP: it's okay if you want to work in San Diego Unified

GinnyF: it depends on the district....San Diego city school are hiring...but that's about it...

AkiraBo: Did you hear that our edtech might not get us our clear cred?

KristiGuest2: I've had my credential since last July, no contract yet

CorrinP: it will if you were recommended for your preliminary before July 1st

MargaretD: Germans would fight for one maybe because of the weather.

TallisonL: That's encouraging :)

CorrinP: those that finished in may are good to go

GinnyF: yes I did hear that but....I talked to someone in the cred office at sdsu...and they say as long as we completed the cred. program by July 1 2003 we should be fine to apply for the clear right away!

TallisonL: Maggi-- what do you guys usually talk about in here?

AkiraBo: are you getting sub positions yet Kristi?

DavidPr: What is the credential?

GinnyF: sorry Kristi- good luck

CorrinP: Multiple subject

KristiGuest2: I've been a long term sub this year-hopefully I'll get a contract for next

MargaretD: We usually go with the flow of those who are present.

GinnyF: I hope so....

CorrinP: better than nothing

CorrinP: what is the purpose of the webhead?

AkiraBo: that's great! All cash you can get is good.

GinnyF: at least you got paid this last year...student teaching really drains the pocket books

CorrinP: dido

MargaretD: Any of you thought of teaching abroad?

AnneLS: I've heard from my principal that they are pretty much going off of principal recommendations this year - so be sure to get observed by your principal and get a letter!

AkiraBo: I have.

CorrinP: nope, I can't leave my family

GinnyF: me too

KristiGuest2: yes, I've looked into the DODDS program

SusanCon: I have always thought that would be very cool someday

CorrinP: what is DODDS

GinnyF: ditto

AkiraBo: I would love to teach in Europe or in my home country, Panama.

MargaretD: Webhead is the name Vance gave the first group of students.

GinnyF: that would be very neat...when did you come here?

AkiraBo: I was 9 .

KristiGuest2: DODDS is to teach on overseas military bases - American children overseas

CorrinP: oh cool

CorrinP: Maggi, tell us about you

MargaretD: DODD is dept of Defense...schools for the children of the military and civilians.

GinnyF: That would be a great experience to teach overseas....but I am like Corrin...I cannot leave my family

DavidPr: What are the credentials people are talking about?

MargaretD: I've lived 25 years in Germany and years ago did work as a civilian for the AF in England and here but not as a teacher.

CorrinP: We are talking out our Multiple Subject Credential so we can teach K-8

SusanCon: My husband would love to live overseas, but my youngest stepdaughter is still in high school, Maybe in 3 or 4 years...

AkiraBo: How's your German?

DavidPr: Thanks

GinnyF: In CA, there are two types of cred. for teaching....I have a multiple subject preliminary cred....and within five years you have to get a Cleared cred

MargaretD: credentials for DODD schools would be those needed in the US:

GinnyF: Two types for me

MargaretD: My German is fluent, almost bilingual, my son is.

AkiraBo: That's great.

CorrinP: that's awesome

SusanCon: What part of Germany?

CorrinP: Maggi, where do you live now?

DavidPr: Does DPI or the state of CA regulate the credentials?

GinnyF: I wish that I could speak another language....but it was very hard for me to learn (Spanish) as an adult...

GinnyF: I think CA

MargaretD: south of Frankfurt

CorrinP: hard for me too.....three semesters with A's in each class and I still didn't learn anything

GinnyF: A's....no....Lets try B's....

AnneLS: yeah I took Spanish for 6 years and I still don't know anything!

SusanCon: We have enjoyed visiting that part of Germany. Husband LOVES the autobahn!

GinnyF: I think it is easier as a child to learn more than 1 lang

JoAnneGuest3: it seems like you just have to go to a place where the language you're learning is spoken in order to really "get it."

CorrinP: my brother lived in Germany for six months and loved every minute of it. he didn't want to come home

MargaretD: I took German at the U of Maryland here but it wasn't until I got out and about with people that I really learned German.

AkiraBo: Do some of you think that with all the regulations placed upon future teachers right now many will get discouraged and not become teachers?

GinnyF: Which brother?

AnneLS: yes that and the fact that there are NO JOBS!!

AkiraBo: I hear ya!

GinnyF: I really would like to have a job

MargaretD: really a shame, but do want to teach because it is a job or you love to teach?

CorrinP: the pendulum always swings that way in education. there will be jobs soon we just have to be patient

GinnyF: I love to teach...I have wanted to be a teacher for as long as I could remember

AnneLS: I'm doing it because I love to teach. I really don't need the money

SusanCon: As someone with a kid in school, it's very depressing to see how the teachers are treated and what you have to go through in San Diego.

CorrinP: Ginny: my big brother

AkiraBo: I love to teach. But a job pays the bills.

GinnyF: oh thanks c

MargaretD: true

CorrinP: I love to teach....you have to to be a great teacher

MargaretD: I can't think of any job more important to children.

TallisonL: Because the whole process is more difficult, hopefully we will just end up with higher quality teachers.

CorrinP: if you are in it for the money, you are in the wrong profession

GinnyF: I agree corrin

MargaretD laughs

AkiraBo: That's true Corrin.

MargaretD: you won't get rich!

CorrinP: definitely

AnneLS: definitely not

GinnyF: nope...not with money...but with other things

CorrinP: although you should having one of the most important jobs in America....educating the future

MargaretD: So you better love it then.

GinnyF: Being a teacher is a very noble profession

SusanCon: So many of my kids' teachers seem demoralized by the San Diego "Blueprint for Success" Many of their best teachers have left the profession

CorrinP: totally agree Ginny.....internal rewards

GinnyF: yes they have

DavidPr . o O ( rich in that you influenced a child )

CorrinP: nicely put David

AkiraBo: Teaching is noble. It's just sad that teachers are not valued in this country as much as they are around the world.

CorrinP: yep

GinnyF: Watching a child learn and grow...that is the best feeling in the world

AnneLS: Maggi are they more valued in Germany?

MargaretD: Yes, think about it. No one parent would normally be capable of teaching their children everything they need to build a life.

CorrinP: if you want to live somewhere where they really value teachers.....try Sweden

GinnyF: yep

DavidPr: Sweden values almost everything!

MargaretD: The system here is different.

AkiraBo: I don't think it should matter where one lives. All educators should be valued and they are not.

CorrinP: true

AnneLS: Its such a sad situation. I'm at a school where they have worked hard to create that value of teachers. This school is not in the greatest of neighborhoods, but the kids are so respectful. I wish all schools could be that way

MargaretD: This is sadly true.

DavidPr: Good point

MargaretD: And I think 'Leave no child behind' is leaving more of them behind.

GinnyF: I do too

CorrinP: YES

AnneLS: yes I totally agree!

AkiraBo: Dido

GinnyF: YES!!!!!!!!!!!! I couldn't agree more

JoAnneGuest3: I've heard it called "no child left untested," which seems more accurate.

SusanCon: It doesn't help that there doesn't appear to be funding for "no child left behind"

DavidPr: It's making it hard on both public and private schools!

GinnyF: haha Joanna

CorrinP: nicely put JoAnne

MargaretD: Especially when you consider the problems we will leave for the children today.

DavidPr: Can we test the politicians?

GinnyF: Testing testing testing....that is what school is all about right now....

GinnyF: I hate it

AnneLS: haha the politicians would never pass

AkiraBo: I would love to see how much they know about being in the classroom and teaching.

DavidPr: Exactly!

SusanCon: Yes, Could George Bush pass a standardized test?

GinnyF: that don't know anything...they have never been there

MargaretD: Those tests should first be given to politicians.

CorrinP: the people designing these tests haven't been in the classroom DavidPr: He would have his staff do it for him.

GinnyF: no he couldn't

AkiraBo: They come in, take a few pictures and leave. I would like to see one politician teach for a day. They would not survive!

CorrinP: true

GinnyF: It could be great to watch...I probably would laugh the whole day

DavidPr: It would be fun to watch!

CorrinP: many people that say teaching is such an easy job don't see everything that goes into it

MargaretD: I hate to say it but we have given control of most everything to someone else...our food, for example

CorrinP: Maggi, what do you mean

MargaretD: people who have never taught to make tests?

AnneLS: ahhh Did any of you see the new science test?  
JoAnneGuest3: I agree with you Maggi.. but how to get that control back..?  
MargaretD: You have no control over where your food comes from.  
AkiraBo: No!  
AnneLS: I'm curious to know how it went  
CorrinP: what science test?  
GinnyF: I did not see it  
CorrinP: on the CAT6?  
AnneLS: it was in 5th grade this year  
AkiraBo: All I see is writing and math.  
GinnyF: me too  
AnneLS: yes I think CAT 6 but maybe the other one they took  
CorrinP: me three  
CorrinP: I heard about it from the class next door to me  
CorrinP: how was it?  
MargaretD: 60% of processed food in the US is genetically manipulated...now others are manipulating our children.  
AkiraBo: I think I get sick of looking at it more than the kids do.  
TallisonL: My kids took the science test this year... they said they knew most of it, but a lot of the information they learned because we do a special program called School In The Park, where they get to go into different museums and learn from there.  
CorrinP: are you at Rosa Parks?  
GinnyF: that sounds like a great program  
TallisonL: Without those experiences, they wouldn't have known a lot of the stuff on the test... yes, I am at Rosa Parks  
AkiraBo: That is an excellent program Talisson.  
CorrinP: That is the GREATEST program, I worked in a classroom that did that  
MargaretD: Doesn't that say something?  
CorrinP: hands on learning  
TallisonL: It's a great program.. but it's almost not fair to all the other students who didn't get those experiences and had to take the test  
GinnyF: I agree.....  
GinnyF: 100%  
MargaretD: Exactly Corrin!  
CorrinP: I agree, I think all schools in this area should have the option of doing the program  
AnneLS: Maggi, I have a question about this chat - will it be saved somewhere on the website if we want to look back at it?  
JoAnneGuest3: Maggi, I think it definitely does.. how are these kinds of things avoided in other countries..?  
CorrinP: Tallison, do you teach 3rd grade?  
MargaretD: Yes, and if you are a member it will automatically be sent to you.  
TallisonL: I'm in fifth grade right now.  
CorrinP: oh, I wasn't sure if all grade participate in the program  
GinnyF: well guys...I have loved chatting with you all....but I have to go to work...have a wonderful day! bye



TallisonL: 3rd - 5th graders get to go throughout the year

DavidPr: Testing is mainly an accountability issue, independent of the subject area. What and how do they test in Germany?

GinnyF: corrin let me know all else that was said

AkiraBo: In my country the majority of the learning comes from the hands on experiences. There is testing off course and a lot harder than here in the states. But, a lot of hands on.

CorrinP: ok gin

AnneLS: bye Ginny!

GinnyF: BYE!!!!

MargaretD: Jo Anne many countries are picking up on the tests, but still have creative teachers who get around it and parents who are actively concerned.

MargaretD: bye Ginny.

GinnyF left the room (signed off).

DavidPr: So it does not teach for the test?

MargaretD: They have the PISA test for Europe but the shock was Germans didn't do so well.

AkiraBo: Teaching for what the students are supposed to know from what they are learning in the classroom. Not the test.

CorrinP: what does PISA stand for?

MargaretD: Not sure

CorrinP: too much teaching to the test is happening instead of true learning

CorrinP: it's sad

AkiraBo: true

DavidPr: Exactly

SusanCon: Most of my kids' classes seem to teach for the test. My oldest passed the tests, got good grades, went to college & had to take remedial math AND English as her skills were so poor

MargaretD: But one school that did really well in Wiesbaden, dealt with projects and independent, hands on learning and they scored well.

CorrinP: I know many like that

MargaretD: I hate teaching to tests.

CorrinP: what they tell us to teach (and how) and then how they test are two totally different things

AnneLS: most of the classes I've been in are trying to teach to the standards and less to the test (not test taking strategies etc. but instead to hit all the standards.)

AnneLS: but I know what you mean

CorrinP: yes, it's the tests that need to be changed though

MargaretD: The only test I prepare my trainees for is from the London Chamber of Commerce and a practical test of Business skills.

AkiraBo: That is the key! Try to get in the standards.

TallisonL: It's all about the standards now... but when it comes close to test time, it is hard to not just teach the material you know they will need for the test in the next few days.

AkiraBo: true too

AnneLS: yes but I wonder if those classes that focus on standards instead of teaching to the test end up with lower scores than the classes that do teach to the test

CorrinP: my poor children's brains were fried before they even took the test from so much cramming by my master teacher

JoAnneGuest3: I have an off-topic question.. the writing for web heads page says something about world friendship through online language learning.. how does that work..?

AnneLS: that is horrible! those tests fry their brains enough!

MargaretD: that isn't learning

AkiraBo: no idea

CorrinP: unfortunately

DavidPr: Sorry to interrupt, great conversations and thanks, I have to go (back to the cold rain), take care everyone! Hang in there all you great teachers! Good Bye!

JoAnneGuest3: no, that's memorizing and they're likely not going to retain that info for long anyways..

MargaretD: You come here, talk to others and become friends.

AnneLS: I need to get going too

DavidPr left the room (signed off).

CorrinP: by David

MargaretD: We also have an email list.

MargaretD: Meeting here is extra.

JoAnneGuest3: where does the language learning come in..?

MargaretD: Yinglan in Taiwan and Felix in Brazil have been around for 5 years.

MargaretD: We are all friends.

TallisonL: Thanks for the conversation... I've got to get going too...

AkiraBo: It has been a pleasure discussing many issues with all of you. Take care and Good Luck with all you wish to accomplish. I'm off to a fun day of house cleaning. Bye!!

KristiGuest2: Thanks for the chat Maggi-it was interesting

TallisonL: Bye everyone!

CorrinP: Thanks everyone....BJ, thanks for all your help. You made being a first time user much more comfortable

MargaretD: You learn by using the language.

TallisonL left the room.

JoAnneGuest3: oh, ok -- so if you're learning a language and you go online and communicate with others in that language, that's where the language-learning part comes in..

MargaretD: Kudos for BJ!

BJ: thanks, Corrin and Maggi

MargaretD: Yes, Jo Ann and I've seen incredible progress in some.

BJ waves bye and takes a break until the tour in an hour

SusanCon: Thanks everyone, Bye