**Writing Strategy # 1 – November**

**Loop Writing**

Loop writing is a fast-paced method to help students narrow down a broad topic and focus on the aspects of the topic that interest them the most. Ideally, students will dig down to a subtopic appropriate in scope for the assigned paper.

Steps:

1. Have the students freewrite for a set time or length (a whole page, a half page, five minutes) about their broad topic without stopping. Explain to them that they are not worrying about grammar, mechanics, or even quality of thought, and that this writing is just for them. Anything goes, but they should start off writing about their topics. Explain that you will be following the steps as well.
2. Ask the students to read through their freewrites and to underline the one sentence, statement, or thought that strikes them and seems most interesting. Have them pick something that seems intriguing and worth exploring.
3. Have the students write down their chosen statement at the top of a second sheet, then fill that second page (or write for five minutes, etc). Tell them to dig into the underlined idea, explore it, and let themselves go wherever their writing leads.
4. *If time permits, and things are going well*: have them pick out the best statement or thought from this second freewrite, put it on the top of your third sheet, and fill up a third page.
5. Finally, the students should underline the statement or thought that they find most interesting in their final freewrite.