

Student says:

Before I begin my writing assignment, it is important for me to spend some time looking at the requirements closely. I want to make sure I am doing what my professor is asking me to do.

First, I notice that my assignment is to explore another culture, and since my professor is using the term “alien territory,” I know I need to choose some culture or some place that feels really foreign to me.

<points to middle section>

I notice the directions mention using a lot of detail, and my professor asks questions about what things look like and smell like. I know I will need to be descriptive in my writing, so I will definitely review the “Descriptive Essay” section in the Essay Zone of the Excelsior College Online Writing Lab.

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Finally, I see a list of the basic requirements for length, formatting, and source requirements. I see my paper should be 4 to 6 pages, formatted according to APA guidelines, and must include three outside sources, plus one interview.

These are the things I will need to keep in mind as I begin my writing process for my paper.