**DOs and DON’Ts**

**DO:** State your purpose/thesis early – think about the most important thing your reader needs to know and put it at the beginning of your work  
**DON’T:** Write your paper like a joke, with the punchline (the most important part) at the end

**DO:** Follow the structure you set up in your introduction  
**DON’T:** Confuse your reader by not letting them know where you’re going in your essay

**DO:** Include one or two ideas per sentence  
**DON’T:** Write a sentence that is so long the reader loses track of what you’re saying

---  

Wonder Woman is the daughter of Hippolyta and was raised on the island of Themyscira. 😐

Wonder Woman is the daughter of Hippolyta, she rides on an invisible jet, and she first appeared in a 1987 comic co-created by Harry G. Peter, who started his career at the San Francisco Chronicle. 😐

---  

**DO:** Use transition words/phrases (e.g. however, whereas, as noted) to guide your reader  
**DON’T:** Rely solely on transition words/phrases – follow a logical structure that also guides your reader

---  

Wonder Woman’s real name is “Diana of Themyscira,” however she goes by several aliases. 😐

Wonder Woman spoke Themyscirian, but she learned English, however she still had to use the Lasso of Truth when words were not enough. 😐

---  

**DO:** Use clear, carefully-chosen words  
**DON’T:** Use unnecessary jargon

---  

Wonder Woman traveled to Olympus to talk with the gods. 😐

Wonder Woman navigated an excursion to Olympus where she dialectically interfaced with the gods. 😐

---  

**Further Resources:**
The Writing Center at UNC-Chapel Hill (online resources)  
Purdue Online Writing Lab
**DOs and DON’Ts**

**DO:** Use direct language to write easy-to-follow sentences

**DON’T:** Use too many nominalizations in a sentence (nominalizations = verbs or adjectives as nouns, e.g. “they had an argument” vs. “they argued”)

**DON’T:** Use excessive prepositions (e.g. “is” and “to”)

Wonder Woman fought the drug dealer Michael Boyd, a.k.a. Skeeter LaRue.

Wonder Woman got in a fight with Michael Boyd who is a drug dealer and goes by the alias Skeeter LaRue.

**DO:** Use “strong” verbs that describe exact actions

**DON’T:** Overuse “weak” verbs, such as the “to be” or “to have” verbs

Wonder Woman unleashed her Golden Lasso and it forced the villain to tell the truth.

Wonder Woman used her Golden Lasso and the effect it had on the villain was making him tell the truth.

**DO:** Use parallel structure (i.e. each clause or phrase has the same grammatical structure)

**DON’T:** Use inconsistent verbs conjugations (e.g. run and running) in the same sentence

Yesterday Wonder Woman flew her invisible jet, saved a child, and met with Superman.

Yesterday Wonder Woman flew her invisible jet, saved a child, and had a meeting with Superman.

**DO:** Be deliberate about using active or passive voice (active voice = the subject does the action, passive voice = the object has the action done to it)

**DON’T:** Use active and passive inconsistently, unless you have a reason to do so (in general, academics prefer active voice because it is direct and concise; however, science writing often calls for the passive voice)

Wonder Woman joined the Justice League of America.

The Justice League of America was joined by Wonder Woman.

**Further Resources:**

The Writing Center at UNC-Chapel Hill (online resources)
Purdue Online Writing Lab