

## Reflective questions for getting started on an assignment

1. In a few sentences, paraphrase what this assignment asks you to do.
2. What questions do you have about the assignment instructions?
3. Break down the smaller tasks that will be necessary for you to complete the assignment. Assign dates by which you would like to have completed the tasks.
4. What skills or knowledge do you already possess that will help you complete the assignment? What skills or knowledge will you need to acquire?
5. What resources can you draw on to help?

After having students answer these questions in writing, it can be beneficial to have them share their responses in small groups to compare their perceptions of the assignment, their plans, and available resources. Questions that are not clarified in the groups can then be addressed to the instructor.

Adapted from "[Cultivating Reflection and Metacognition](#)," Sweetland Center for Writing, University of Michigan.