Some people possess the gift of being able to sit down and write a perfect piece of composition in one step. Unfortunately, I am not one of them. However, I can write great works as long as I break things down to step-by-step processes. I adhere to procedures. Procedures allow me to write as completely and efficiently as possible. The way I write is the way I draw.

I draw by following procedures. The first and most important part of the drawing begins with visualizing the subject. Once I have some idea of what the drawing is going to look like, I then begin to sketch it. After I have completed a rough sketch, I then start working on the first layer of the drawing. I then conglomerate the first layer with dark tones. This is the second layer. I repeat this same step with yet even darker tones. This is the third layer. After I have completed all three of these, I then go back and outline the entire drawing. This process includes highlighting area, adding texture, setting attitude, and then blending all the tones together with a paper stump. The final step is to apply fixative to the drawing. This process produces a great drawing with little frustration.

The step-by-step procedures I use to draw make drawing fun and fairly easy. Breaking things down into small parts assures me the least amount of frustrations. This is also true when I write.

I use step-by-step procedures when I write. Before I even touch a keyboard, I first think about what I am going to write about and how I am going to say it. Once I have some idea of the topic, I then create a thesis. After I have stated my thesis, I then begin to sketch an outline of the points of support that will prove my thesis true. Now I can start to write the composition. I first start by writing the introduction to my paper with the thesis stated in the proper position. Next, I begin to write the body of the composition. Once I have completed the body, I can then write my closure paragraph. After I have completed writing all the text, I then go back and place transitions in the text to create coherency. The final step of the composition is checking the grammar, spelling, and punctuation. This completes the entire work.

The procedures that I use when I draw and when I write are very similar. But why do I follow these procedures? By using step-by-step processes, I can assure myself that everything will go as smoothly as possible, and that I will create a piece of work as professional and beautiful as I can.

—Susie Creamcheese