Secondary Methodology 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

Hi Everybody,

You may remember that on Friday afternoon I gave you a sentence and asked you to write the one that you felt could sensibly follow mine. You may remember the very different sentences we all came up with.

This was a first whiff of the writing work that I hope we will get into today. A preliminary to this is asking you to tell me how you see yourself as a writer in your MT and in English. Let's start off with a look at all the text types you have written. In my time I have written all of the following text types:

Schoolboy essays (English, French and Spanish)

Love poems

Notes left on the kitchen table

A picture book ( when I was four) to explain to my Dad why I objected to learning to read!

Phone messages

University essays

Articles for teacher magazines

Contributions to professional moodles and blogs

Book translations into English (from French and Greek)

A children's story (written when at Uni)

News items (in my first job, at Reuters)

Emails galore

Letters home from boarding school (obligatory: Sunday 9.15-10.00)

EFL teacher resource books

My feeling about myself as a writer is that I am a jobbing journalist and that writing is a job to be done efficiently and reasonably fast, as life is short. Without aspiring to great heights I, I find I enjoy the process of writing and am enjoying myself right now...as I choose the words to carry my meaning (or some of it) to you.

Can I ask you now to write me a page about you as a writer in both L1 and in English? Let me know the types of texts you have written and let me have some idea of the way you see yourself as a writer. Why I am asking you to do this will become clear a little later. I think is obvious that your relationship to writing has clear bearing on the way you teach this major skill in the context of English.

Warmly yours,

Mario