Name:

Section: Date: Score:

On Writing Well by William Zinsser
Ch. 3: Clutter

1. What do you think Zinsser means when he says, "fighting clutter is like fighting weeds--the writer is always slightly behind?"

2. Why does Zinsser say that the words "personal" and "experiencing" often clutter writing?

3. What do you think Zinsser means when he says, "clutter is the ponderous euphemism that turns a slum into a depressed socioeconomic area, garbage collectors into waste-disposal personnel and the town dump into the volume reduction unit?"

4. Write a summary of this chapter in exactly 20 words.

5. Write a 250-word or more reflection on what you learned from this reading.