

Explicit Instruction Webinar

1. Writing Instruction
2. Writing Instruction - Questions from trainers
3. Other trainer questions
4. Your questions

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May 23, 2013
Webinar

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Writing Suggestion #1

- **Teach foundation skills to mastery**

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Big Idea: Writing products dependent on foundation skills

Outcome: Writing Arguments, Informational Texts, Narratives

Example Foundation Skills:
reading, expressive vocabulary, word usage, fluent handwriting or typing, spelling, grammar, capitalization, punctuation, sentence formation, sentence sense, paragraph formation

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Writing Suggestion #2

- **Focus on a limited number of genre.**
- Arguments/Opinions
- Informational Text
 - summaries, compare-contrast
- Narratives

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Writing Suggestion #3

Provide Explicit Instruction

Writing is not caught. Writing is taught.

- Model - I do it.
- Guided Practice - We do it.
- Check understanding- You do it.

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Writing Suggestion #4

- Have students write many products of focus genre to promote mastery.
- After initial instruction, products can be composed in a variety of classes.
How might we facilitate increased writing in content area classes?

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Writing – Suggestion # 5

Provide feedback on written products.

- *(Teacher Feedback)* Provide feedback in real time as you circulate and monitor. *(Praise, Encourage, Correct)*
- *(Teacher Feedback)* Provide feedback to the group
- *(Self Feedback)* Have students carefully check their products against the rubric

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Writing – Suggestion # 5

Provide feedback on written products.

•(Peer feedback) Have students give **focused** feedback to their partners

•(Teacher Feedback) Provide feedback to students on a portion of the rubric

•(Teacher Feedback) Provide feedback on final drafts using the rubric

Question: Should the same rubric be used across classes and across grades?

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Writing Suggestion # 6

• Consider motivation

– **Success** (perceived probability of success)

– **Interest** (interest in the topic)

– **Choice** (narrow choice when possible)

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Writing Suggestion #7

- **Teach WHAT accounts for a well-written product**
- Introduce the critical attributes of the product using a rubric
- Illustrate rubric with an example

How can we develop appropriate rubrics?

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7th Grade Argument Critical Attributes Listed in Standards

Introduction

- Introduces claims
- Acknowledges alternative claims/ counterarguments
- Organizes reasons

Body

- Supports claims and counterarguments
- With logical reasoning and relevant evidence
- Uses transition words, phrases, clauses to create cohesion

Conclusion

- Contains concluding statement or section
- That supports argument

Overall

- Conveys a reasoned, logical argument
- Maintains formal style
- Has clear, coherent writing
- Avoids plagiarism

Conventions

- Capitalization, punctuation, spelling
- Standard format for citations

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Writing Suggestion #8

- **Teach the writing process using the language of the CCSS**

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| – Planning | - Plan |
| – Writing | - Write |
| – Revising | - Revise |
| – Editing | - Edit |
| – Rewriting | - Rewrite |
| – Publishing | - Publish |

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Writing Suggestion #9

- **Scaffold the organization of the written product using:**

- **Writing frames**
- **Strategies**
- **Think Sheets**

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Writing Frame - Narrative Summary

_____ took place in/at

The main character of this story was _____
His/her major problem was _____

_____ tried to solve this problem by _____

In the end _____

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Writing Frame - Summary

Summary of Informational Text

Chapter: _____ Topic: _____

In this section of the chapter, a number of critical points were made about

First, the authors pointed out that....

This was important because....

Next, the authors mentioned that....

Furthermore, they indicated ...

This was critical because....

Finally, the authors suggested that....

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Writing Frame - Summary

Summary of Informational Text

Chapter: *Drifting Continents* Topic: *Wegener's Theory*

In this section of the chapter, a number of critical points were made about *Alfred Wegener's theory of continental drift*. First, the authors pointed out that *Wegener believed that all the continents were once joined together in a single land mass that he called Pangaea that drifted apart forming the continents of today*. This was important because *it explained why the outline of the continents as they are today fit together*. Next, the authors mentioned that *Wegener argued that there were many pieces of evidence supporting his theory of continental drift*. Furthermore, they indicated that *Wegener used evidence of similar landforms and fossils on different continents to prove his theory*. This was critical because *this evidence could be validated by other scientists*. Finally, the authors suggested that *despite this evidence, other scientists did not accept Wegener's theory because he could not explain the force that pushes and pulls the continents*.

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Writing Frame - Prediction

Prediction Story -

The last thing that happened in the story was

I predict that

I have a number of reasons for this prediction.

First,

In addition,

Finally,

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Writing Frame - Prediction

Prediction

Story - *Max found Two Sticks*

The last thing that happened in the story was *that Max collected soda bottles to use for music making*. I predict that *Max will continue to collect items for drumming*. I have a number of reasons for this prediction. First, *Max has already collected items for drumming including sticks, a cleaning bucket, hat boxes, garbage cans, and bottles*. In addition, *Max made music that matched the sounds around him*. Finally, *I believe that Max will make drum music because it gives him joy*.

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- These would be great in content area classes. Do you have any more?

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Writing Frame - Opinion

- Topic - _____

Many people believe that....

However, I believe that....

One reason for my opinion is that

Another reason is

An additional reason for my opinion is that

In conclusion,

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Writing Frame - Opinion

Topic - Jackson as President for the Common Man

Many people believe that *Andrew Jackson was the President for the common man as he declared during the election*. However, I believe that *Andrew Jackson was not the President for the common man but rather the president for some of the people*. One reason for my opinion is that *Andrew Jackson ordered the removal of Native Americans from Georgia and Florida, their homelands*. Another reason is that *during Andrew Jackson's presidency, suffrage, the right to vote, was only afforded to white men in the United States*. An additional reason for my opinion is that *Andrew Jackson owned 150 slaves on his plantation*. In conclusion, *many of Jackson's "common men" were denied the rights of others including the right to their own land, the right to vote, and the right to be free*.

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Strategies

Strategy for Paragraph Writing

- List
- Cross-out
- Connect
- Number
(Write)

REWARDS PLUS (Sopris West)

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List - Make a list of important ideas.

Penquin's birth

- *Male takes care of egg*
- *Female lays egg*
- *Female leaves*
- *Female spends winter at sea*
- *The water is very cold*
- *Male puts egg on his feet under belly*
- *Male stays on egg for two months*
- *Male doesn't eat*
- *Egg hatches*
- *Male must care for baby*

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Cross-out - Cross out any unnecessary or weak ideas.

Connect - Connect ideas that could go in one sentence.

Penguin's birth

- Male takes care of egg
- Female lays egg
- Female leaves
- Female spends winter at sea
- ~~The water is very cold~~
- Male puts egg on his feet under belly
- Male stays on egg for two months
- Male doesn't eat
- Egg hatches
- Male must care for baby

Number - Number the ideas in the order that they will appear in the paragraph.

Penguin's birth

- 3 Male takes care of egg
- 1 Female lays egg
- 2 Female leaves
- Female spends winter at sea
- ~~The water is very cold~~
- 4 Male puts egg on his feet under belly
- Male stays on egg for two months
- 5 Male doesn't eat
- Egg hatches
- 6 Male must care for baby

Write a summary.

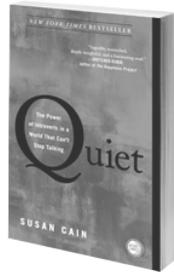
The birth process of penguins is fascinating and quite different from that of other animals. The female penguin lays an egg. Soon after laying the egg, the female penguin leaves and spends the winter in the sea. Meanwhile the male must take care of the egg. For two months, he places the egg on his feet under his belly. During this time, the male penguin doesn't eat. Even after the baby penguin hatches, the male penguin continues to take care of the infant penguin.

Scaffold Writing with Think Sheets

SAME		Groups	
Categories	St. Bernard	Newfoundland	
Use	Rescue	Rescue	
Height	Full grown males same	Full grown males same	
Type of Fur	Smooth dense that protects from cold	Smooth dense that protects from cold	
DIFFERENT		Groups	
Categories			
Weight	155 – 170 pounds	140 – 150 pounds	
Place of Origin	Swiss Alps	Newfoundland	
Different Clients	Climbers and skiers	People in Atlantic Ocean	

Question - Should all of our class work involve collaboration and team work?

Interesting reading:



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Question - Instead of using the instructional sequence of *I do it, We do it, You do it, could you use You do it, We do it, You do it?*

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Question - Can you have students determine the meaning of a word by analyzing examples and non-examples?

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Question - Should you teach math vocabulary before the lesson or embed the vocabulary instruction as you proceed?

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Question - Can students learn vocabulary independently at the high school level?

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Question - How do summer experiences affect the academic gap?

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Question - As we analyze new core reading programs, what should we consider?

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Your Questions?

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Webinars - 4 next year

Have a wonderful summer.

