

CARTERVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
WRITING CURRICULUM
GRADE 5
Revised 2009

FIRST & SECOND NINE WEEKS - Focus: Writing Mechanics & Expository Essay

Writing Mechanics

- 1. Write well-developed sentences that are grammatically correct.
- 2. Understand and practice effective word choice and sentence variety.
- 3. Identify topic, main idea, and details in a written composition.
- 4. Write a well-developed paragraph that includes a topic, main idea, and details.
- 5. Recognize and understand common essay writing terminology.

Expository Essay

- 6. Recognize author's purpose of an expository essay.
- 7. Identify different examples of expository writing.
- 8. Recognize and understand the 5 paragraph organization and key characteristics of an expository essay.
- 9. Analyze and identify givens and variables in expository prompts (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 146*).
- 10. Generate, sort, and categorize broad, yet distinct main ideas for given expository prompt (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 118*).
- 11. Write an effective introduction paragraph that includes a strong lead (*attention getter*), 3 main ideas, and a clear topic sentence (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 306-307*).
 - Recognize and utilize a variety of different leads: **quote, statistic, amazing fact, anecdote, descriptive segment, question** (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 243, 304-305*).
- 12. Write effective body paragraphs that include broad, yet distinct main ideas. (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 115*).

- 13. Write effective body paragraphs that include powerful supporting details and elaboration.
 - Use **detail generating questions** to create powerful and vivid expository details and elaboration: *What does it “look” like? Why is that important? Can you give a specific example? Is each detail in a separate sentence?* (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 187*).
 - Become familiar with and utilize **quotes, anecdotes, statistics, amazing facts, and descriptive segments** to SHOW rather than TELL (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 243*).
 - Recognize and understand the importance of using transitional words and phrases within the paragraphs (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 260*).
- 14. Write an effective and creative conclusion paragraph that “sums up” the main ideas and topic of the expository piece.
 - Use specific techniques to write a powerful conclusion: **restate each main idea as a question, word referents, definitive words/phrases, restatement of general thesis statement** (*Empowering Writers - Expository, 343*).

THIRD NINE WEEKS - Focus: Persuasive Essay& Expository Review

- 15. Recognize author’s purpose of a persuasive essay.
- 16. Identify different examples of persuasive writing.
- 17. Recognize and understand the 5 paragraph organization and key characteristics of a persuasive essay.
- 18. Analyze and evaluate an issue in terms of pros and cons in order to choose a position and main arguments (*Empowering Writers - Persuasive, 119*).
- 19. Write an effective introduction paragraph that includes a strong lead, 3 main arguments, and a clear opinion statement.
 - Recognize and utilize a variety of different leads: **statistic, anecdote, quote, rhetorical questions, bandwagon statement, descriptive segment**.
- 20. Write effective body paragraphs that include specific, distinct main arguments (*Empowering Writers - Persuasive, 116*).
- 21. Write effective body paragraphs that include powerful supporting details and elaboration.

- Use **detail generating questions** to create powerful persuasive details and elaboration: *What does it look like? Why is that important to your argument? Can you give a specific example? Did you acknowledge the opposing view and follow it with a “yes, but...”? Did you invite your audience to “join the bandwagon”?* (*Empowering Writers – Persuasive, 157*).
 - Utilize **quotes, anecdotes, and statistics** to SHOW rather than TELL (*Empowering Writers – Persuasive, 187*).
 - Recognize and understand the importance of using transitional words and phrases within the paragraphs.
22. Write an effective conclusion paragraph that includes a restatement of the author’s opinion, the 3 main arguments, and a call to action statement. (*Empowering Writers – Persuasive, 240*).
23. Review and practice **Expository Essay** a few weeks prior to ISAT testing.

FOURTH NINE WEEKS - Focus: Narrative Essay

24. Recognize author’s purpose of a narrative essay.
25. Recognize that a personal experience narrative essay follows a beginning, middle, end sequence and is highly descriptive (*Empowering Writers - Narrative, 11*).
26. Write an effective introduction paragraph that grabs the reader’s attention by giving just enough about the who, when, and where to make them want to read further.
27. Write 3 descriptive body paragraphs that follow the beginning, middle, and end sequence.
- Become familiar with and utilize lead-in phrases to begin the body paragraphs: *It all happened when..., The first thing I remember was..., I’ll never forget that day when..., It started out as any other day...*
 - Become familiar with and utilize time order transitions within the body of the essay: *in the meantime, next, meanwhile, later on, after that, finally, soon after...*
 - Recognize the power of **specific** rather than **general** details – “SHOW, DON’T TELL”.
 - Create interest and anticipation by: *using dialogue, thoughts/feelings, actions, descriptions, figurative language.*

28. Write a closing paragraph that is a reflection of the event.

- Provide a reflection of what you learned, how this experience has affected you, what you will always remember about this experience, etc.

THE FOLLOWING SKILLS WILL BE TAUGHT AND REINFORCED THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR:

- Word choice
- Sentence variety
- Transitions

*After mastering the skills necessary to write each essay, students will be able to write each type in a timed, 55-minute session.