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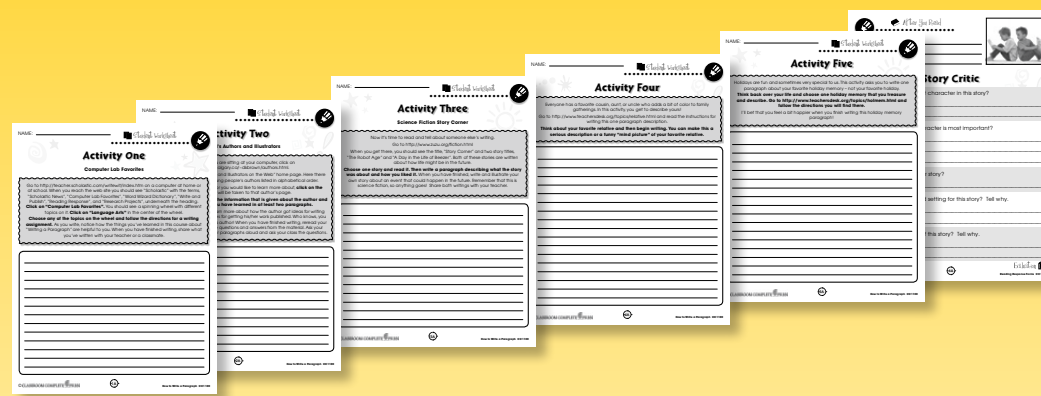
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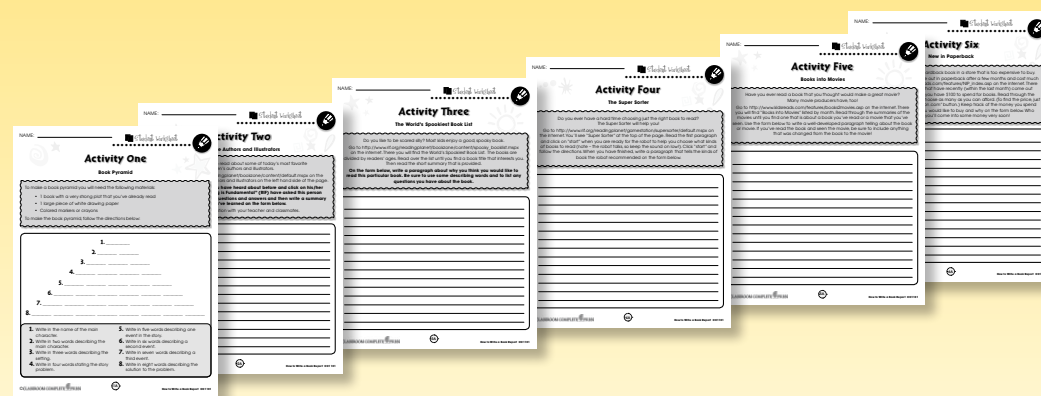
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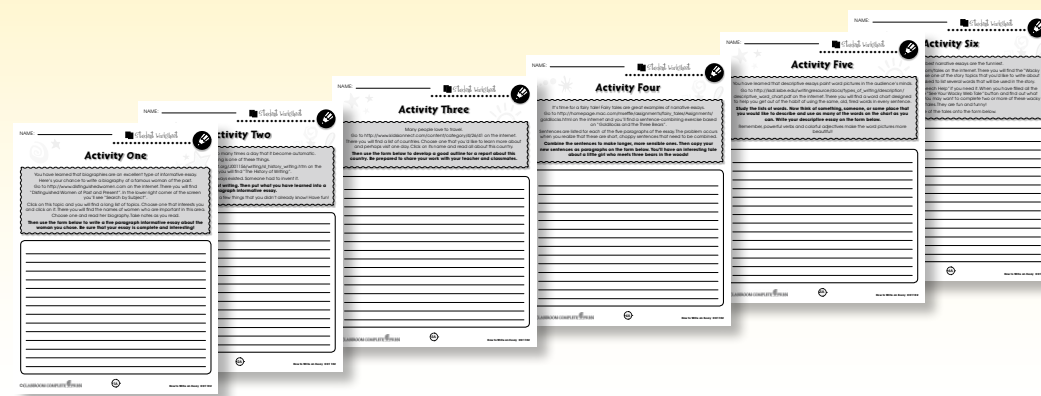
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Prewriting Your Paragraph

1. Fill in each blank with the correct term.

identifying your audience prewriting graphic organizers listing
 clustering brainstorming choosing a focus for writing
 general to specific free-writing

- The first stage in the writing process is _____.
- One way of coming up with ideas for writing by writing down all of your thoughts about a subject in a set period of time is called _____.
- Another method of prewriting is to think about a broad topic and then break it down into all its supporting topics or thinking from _____.
- Diagrams which help you organize your prewriting ideas on paper are called _____.
- The three main methods of brainstorming are _____, _____, and _____.
- Stopping and asking yourself who will be reading your paragraph is _____.
- _____ means that you choose one main topic or idea to write about.



The Writing Watch Dog says,
 "Prewriting is the first step in the writing process.
 Good prewriting equals a great paragraph!"



Prewriting Your Paragraph

Many times you will have a choice about your writing topic. Deciding what to write about can be a very difficult job. But there are some activities that you can do to make the choice easier. These activities are called **prewriting**. **Prewriting is the first stage of the writing process.** In prewriting, you get ready to write by talking, thinking, and reading about possible writing topics.

One very good way of prewriting is **brainstorming**. **Brainstorming** is a method of coming up with ideas by writing down all of your thoughts about a subject in a set period of time. Suppose you are in a science class and your teacher asks you to write a paragraph related to science. Obviously, you cannot write about the entire subject of science since it covers so many areas and topics. One way to solve a problem like this one is to brainstorm from **general to specific**. "Science" is a very general term. Begin with that and then list all the topics you can think of that are related to science in some way. Your brainstorming might look like this:

SCIENCE - biology - mammals - bears - grizzly bears - diet

Do you see how the list went from very general to the specific topic of "grizzly bear's diet"? Now, on another sheet of paper, you try the same process of general to specific with "school" as the general topic.

Graphic Organizers

You can also use **graphic organizers** to help you brainstorm ideas for writing. Graphic organizers are **diagrams or drawings** which help you organize your ideas on paper. One of the most common graphic organizers to use for brainstorming is **listing**. Listing means that you write down every word you can think of that is related to a particular topic in a given amount of time. The other main ways to brainstorm are using **cluster maps** and **free-writing**. We will discuss both of these methods and other graphic organizers in later lessons.

Another area of brainstorming is deciding your **focus** or what you will be writing about. Finally, in prewriting you must decide who will read or hear your writing. This is **choosing your audience**.



Prewriting Your Paragraph

1. Put a check mark (✓) next to the correct answer to each question.

- _____ is the first stage of the writing process.
 - A summarizing
 - B prewriting
 - C outlining
- _____ is a method of coming up with ideas by writing down all of your thoughts about a subject in a set period of time.
 - A outlining
 - B summarizing
 - C brainstorming
- Which of the following is not a type of brainstorming?
 - A storyboarding
 - B listing
 - C clustering
- _____ are diagrams or drawings which help you organize your ideas on paper.
 - A sketches
 - B graphic organizers
 - C illustrations
- Which of the following activities must be done during the prewriting stage of writing?
 - A choosing the audience for your writing
 - B choosing the illustrations that will go with your writing
 - C choosing the best summary sentence
- Arrange the following topics from general to specific:
 my house earth my street solar system United States my town my state
 - solar system
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____



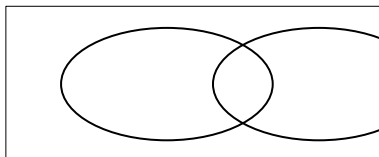
Using Graphic Organizers for Prewriting

Matching: Draw a line from the graphic organizer to the written description of how it is used.

5 W'S CHART

What happened?
 Who was there?
 Why did it happen?
 When did it happen?
 Where did it happen?

VENN DIAGRAM



SENSORY CHART

Subject:
 Sight:
 Sound:
 Smell:
 Touch:
 Taste:

CAUSE AND EFFECT CHART

Cause	Effect

TIMELINE

____/____/____/____/____/____/____

1. A diagram made up of two or more intersecting circles representing relationships among concepts. It is a good way to compare and contrast two things and to organize your thoughts for writing.

2. A type of graphic organizer that lets the writer think about and list the "Who, When, Where, What, and Why" of a story or event.

3. A graphic organizer that shows the relationship between two events when one of the events is the reason the other occurred.

4. A graphic organizer showing the key events within a particular period of time.

5. A chart that organizes the details of the sights, tastes, smells, touches, and sounds in a story or event.



An Important Person

Think about people you know or have met. Choose ONE person who has made a big difference in your life. Write about that person AND describe his or her positive effect on your life.

Handwriting lines for writing the response.



Science Fiction

Imagine yourself in the year 2030, when suddenly all of the world's technologies stop working. You decide to publish a daily newspaper, and make ten copies by hand. In this first paragraph, describe a day in the life of someone in this new non-technological society.

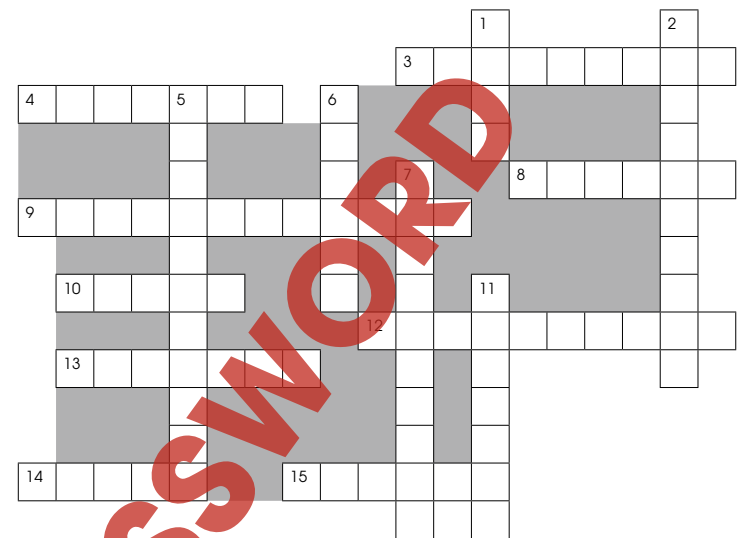
Handwriting lines for writing the response.



Crossword

Word List

- biography, body, book report, characters, fantasy, genres, informative, introduction, mystery, organizer, quotes, setting, theme, title, visual



Across

- 3. A true story about a real person's life that is written by another person
4. The time and place of a story or book
8. _____ Aids are often used in oral book reports
9. The first section of a book report
10. The main idea of a story or book
12. Graphic _____
13. A story about a crime, or an investigation
14. The name of a book
15. Kinds or types of books or stories

Down

- 1. The middle section of a book report
2. Who the book or story is about
5. One type of nonfiction book
6. Actual words spoken by a character in a book or story
7. An essay which gives a brief summary of a book
11. A story about imaginary characters or places



Comprehension Quiz

1. In complete sentences, describe how a paragraph and an essay are related.

2. In complete sentences, describe the parts of an essay.

3. List the five steps in the writing process.

- a) _____
b) _____
c) _____
d) _____
e) _____

4. Circle the word True if the statement is true. Circle the word False if it's false.

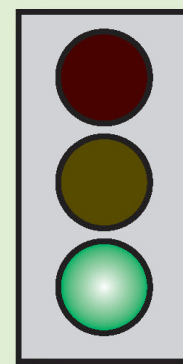
- a) A paragraph is a collection of sentences about the same topic. True False
b) Brainstorming is part of the drafting step in writing. True False
c) Prompts are suggested topics for essays. True False
d) A sensory chart is a graphic organizer that lists all the steps in a process in the order they happened. True False
e) A persuasive essay is one that describes something. True False
f) A sequence chart lists the details of the sights, tastes, smells, touches, and sounds of a topic. True False
g) The purpose of an informative essay is to show, tell, or review. True False

Transition or Linking Words

Some linking words tell you the order of things. You know that the colors of a traffic light are green, yellow, and red. Green means "go" - there is more to come. Yellow means "caution, or slow down". Red means "stop" or "this is the end". There are many other words that mean, "go", "slow down" or "stop". Review them on the Traffic Light Words List below. Remember that these words are linking or transition words.

Traffic Light Words

Green Light Words



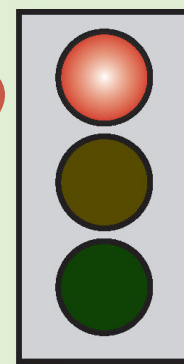
- first
in the beginning
firstly
prior
immediately
today

Yellow Light Words



- second
next
then
in the meantime
during
meanwhile
until

Red Light Words



- ninth
finally
last
in conclusion
in the end
after
afterward
subsequently

NAME: _____

Before You Read 



Kinds of Book Reports

Use one of the terms in the box to fill in each blank.

Fiction	nonfiction	adventure	historical fiction stories	family
historical fact stories	mystery	realistic fiction	science fiction	science stories
fairy tales & fantasy	biographies	animal storybooks	nature	

- a) All books can be classified as _____ or _____.
- b) _____ books are stories that are made up by the author.
- c) _____ books are about real things, people, events, and places.
- d) _____ books are about the environment, taking care of the earth, nature, or wildlife and are fact.
- e) _____ books are about exciting journeys, interesting places, heroes, and spies, and can be fiction or nonfiction.
- f) _____ and _____ books are about dragons, wizards, imaginary characters and places, and are fiction.
- g) _____ books are about crimes, investigations, puzzles with no answers, and questions about animals or other creatures and can be fiction or nonfiction.
- h) _____ are books about true stories about real people's lives and are fact.
- i) _____ books are about possible future events, travel to other galaxies, and future inventions and are fiction.
- j) _____ are books about real life in other times and real people from the past.



The Writing Watch Dog says,
"Genre means a particular type of literature. All the words in the box above name different genres books for students."

- a) fiction, nonfiction
- b) fiction
- c) nonfiction
- d) nature
- e) adventure
- f) fairy tales, fantasy
- g) mystery

1.

- a) accept any reasonable answer
- b) accept any reasonable answer
- c) accept any reasonable answer

2.

- a) science fiction
- b) biographies
- b) biography
- c) historical fact
- d) nature
- e) family
- f) fairy tales
- g) adventure
- j) historical fact stories

1.

- a) 5
- b) 2
- c) 9
- d) 8
- e) 3
- f) 6
- g) 7
- h) 10
- i) 4
- j) 1

2.

accept any reasonable response

3.

accept any reasonable response

1.

- a) FALSE
- b) TRUE
- c) FALSE
- d) TRUE
- e) FALSE
- f) FALSE
- g) TRUE
- h) TRUE
- i) FALSE
- j) FALSE

2.

accept any reasonable response

