



Teacher Guide



Our resource has been created for ease of use by both **TEACHERS** and **STUDENTS** alike.

Introduction



Learning to express themselves in writing is both an art and a science for students.

The primary objective of these “How to” composition guides is to teach the process or science of writing. The author has taken care throughout this study guide to emphasize the concept that writing anything from a short paragraph to a long research report should be done by using the steps of prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading, and publishing which make up the writing process.



The “Writing Watch Dog” emphasizes important concepts throughout the book. Readily available definitions of terms as well as many opportunities to practice the skills being taught make this book user-friendly and easy to understand. In addition, the objectives used in this book are structured using Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning to ensure educational appropriateness.

passage and extend their learning. Students are asked to give thoughtful consideration of the reading passage through creative and evaluative short-answer questions, research, and extension activities.

Writing Tasks are included to further develop students’ thinking skills and understanding of the concepts. The **Assessment Rubric** (page 4) is a useful tool for evaluating students’ responses to many of the activities in our resource. The **Comprehension Quiz** (page 48) can be used for either a follow-up review or assessment at the completion of the unit.

PICTURE CUES

This resource contains three main types of pages, each with a different purpose and use. A **Picture Cue** at the top of each page shows, at a glance, what the page is for.

SAMPLE

Teacher Guide

- Information and tools for the teacher



Student Handout

- Reproducible worksheets and activities



Easy Marking™ Answer Key

- Answers for student activities

How Is Our Resource Organized?

STUDENT HANDOUTS

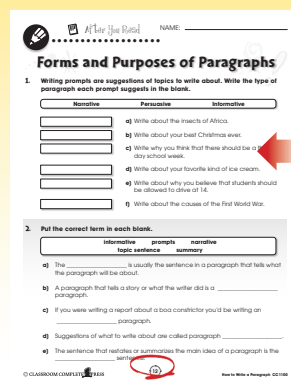
Reading passages and activities (in the form of reproducible worksheets) make up the majority of our resource. The reading passages present important grade-appropriate information and concepts related to the topic. Embedded in each passage are one or more questions that ensure students understand what they have read.

For each reading passage there are **BEFORE YOU READ** activities and **AFTER YOU READ** activities.

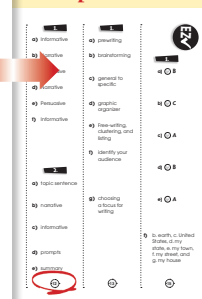
- The **BEFORE YOU READ** activities prepare students for reading by setting a purpose for reading. They stimulate background knowledge and experience, and guide students to make connections between what they know and what they will learn. Important concepts and vocabulary from the chapters are also presented.
- The **AFTER YOU READ** activities check students’ comprehension of the concepts presented in the reading

EASY MARKING™ ANSWER KEY

Marking students’ worksheets is fast and easy with this **Answer Key**. Answers are listed in columns – just line up the column with its corresponding worksheet, as shown, and see how every question matches up with its answer!



Every question matches up with its answer!





What is a Paragraph?

1. Put a check mark (✓) next to the answer that correctly completes each sentence.

a) You need to know how to express yourself in writing

- A only while you are in school.
- B for the rest of your life.
- C only if you become a teacher.

b) The reason you choose to write something is called

- A your purpose for writing.
- B your assignment
- C your homework

c) A group of words that expresses a complete thought is a

- A haiku
- B paragraph
- C sentence

d) A collection of related sentences about the same topic is called a

- A verse
- B paragraph
- C sentence

2. Put a T in front of the best topic sentence for each title.

a) Title: **Safety in Your Home**

- ___ i) There are many things you can do to make your home safe.
- ___ ii) Be sure that all the doors have locks on them.

b) Title: **How to Have an Organized Morning**

- ___ i) Pick your clothes the night before.
- ___ ii) Getting ready for school doesn't have to be chaos each morning.

c) Title: **Some Middle School Students' Favorite Books**

- ___ i) I have always loved *Where the Red Fern Grows*.
- ___ ii) Middle school students enjoy reading a variety of books.

d) Title: **Computers in Middle Schools**

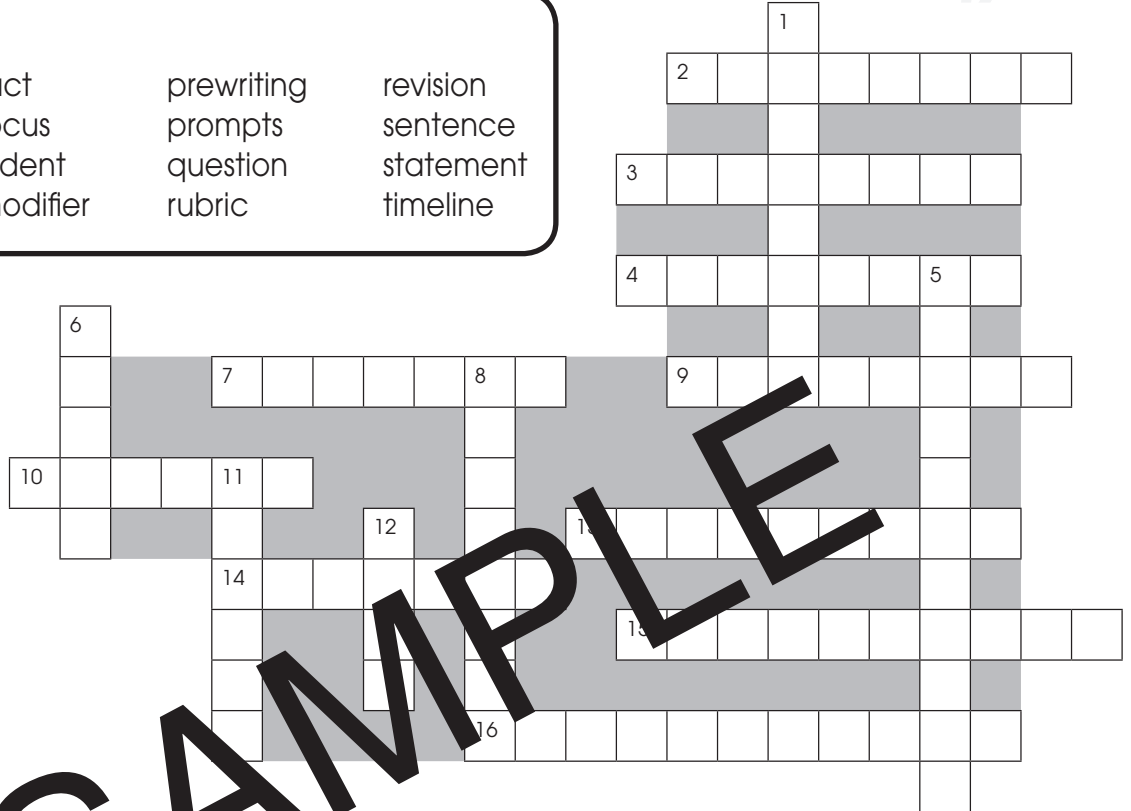
- ___ i) Computers are used for many different purposes in a modern middle school.
- ___ ii) Most middle school kids know more about computers than their parents do.



Crossword

Word List

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| audience | fact | prewriting | revision |
| conjunction | focus | prompts | sentence |
| details | indent | question | statement |
| exclamation | modifier | rubric | timeline |



Across

2. A sentence that ends in a question mark
3. A word that describes another word
4. Those who will read or hear your writing
7. Suggestions of what to write about
9. A group of words that makes a complete thought
10. Lists all the information your teacher will be using to assess your writing
13. A sentence that tells something
14. Sentences that add more information about a topic
15. The first stage of the writing process
16. A sentence that shows excitement

Down

1. The third step in the writing process
5. A joining word such as "and", "but", "or", "because"
6. What you are writing about
8. A graphic organizer showing the key events within a particular period of time
11. Move 5 or more spaces to the right when beginning a paragraph
12. A statement that can be proven

General to Specific



This General to Specific graphic organizer helps students categorize various groups of words by showing their relationships with each other. For elementary students, beginning at the most general term (such as “animal”) and narrowing the topic down to a very specific term (“lion”) is usually most effective.

