



# Teacher Guide



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

## Introduction

**B**ased on the five-step writing model, our “How to Write an Essay” workbook is an excellent addition to your classroom composition instruction. We include the complete coverage of the four most common types of essays as well as presenting a review of grammar and spelling topics. This material will help prepare your students for your state-mandated written composition exams as well as helping them to view writing as an enjoyable means of recording their thoughts, dreams, and goals.



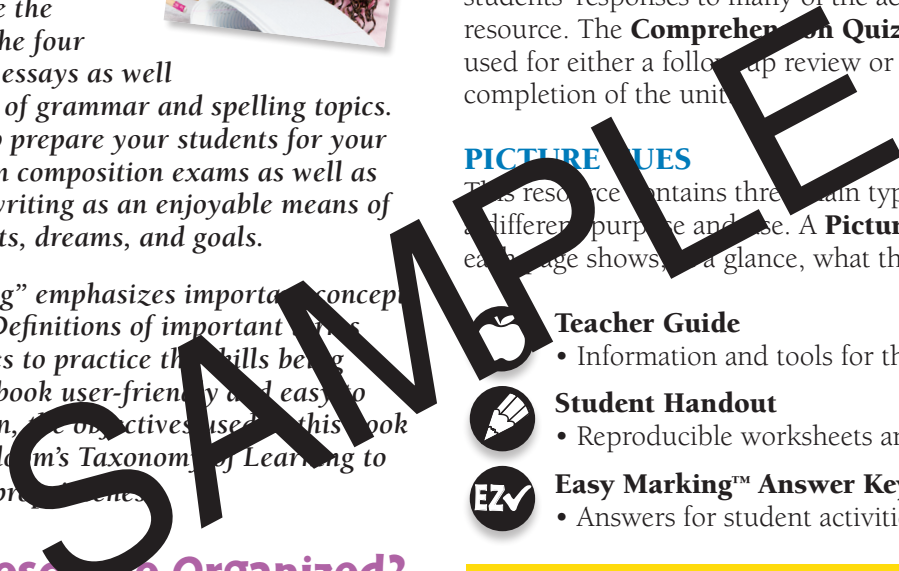
passage and extend their learning. Students are asked to give thoughtful consideration of the reading passage through creative and evaluative short-answer questions, research, and extension activities.

**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.

The “Writing Watchdog” emphasizes important concepts throughout the book. Definitions of important concepts and many opportunities to practice the skills being taught also 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.



### 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

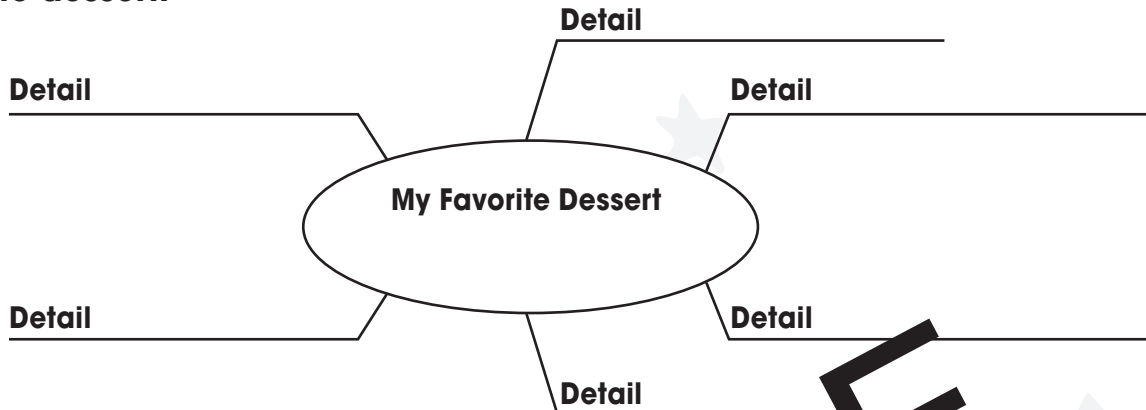
### EASY MARKING™ ANSWER KEY

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!



# What is a Descriptive Essay?

1. Complete the following Spider Map Organizer for a descriptive essay about your favorite dessert.



2. Complete each statement

- a) The purpose of a descriptive essay is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) The two types of descriptive essays are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) Descriptive essays should contain a great deal of colorful \_\_\_\_\_.
- d) The first step in any prewriting process should be \_\_\_\_\_.
- e) When you write a descriptive essay, your job is to paint a \_\_\_\_\_ of the topic.
- f) A good graphic organizer to use for a descriptive essay is a \_\_\_\_\_ Map.

### Things to Remember When You Write a Descriptive Essay about an event:

**Think of an event that you want to describe.**

- Why is this particular event important?
- What were you doing?
- What other things were happening around you? Is there anything specific that stands out in your mind?
- Where were objects located in relation to where you were?
- How did the surroundings remind you of other places you have been?
- What sights, smells, sounds, and tastes were in the air?
- Did the sights, smells, sounds, and tastes remind you of anything?
- What were you feeling at that time?
- Has there been a time in which you have felt this way before?
- What do you want the reader to feel after reading the paper?
- What types of words and images can convey this feeling?
- Can you think of another situation that was similar to the one you are writing about? How can it help explain what you are writing about?
- Is there enough detail in your essay to create a mental image for the reader?



# Comprehension Quiz

4. Identify each essay type by placing an **I** before each informative prompt, a **P** before each persuasive prompt, an **N** before each narrative prompt, and a **D** before each descriptive prompt.



- a) write about the insects in Australia
- b) write about the best birthday you ever had.
- c) write about why you believe there should be a three day school week.
- d) describe your favorite kind of ice cream
- e) should boys and girls go to separate schools
- f) What is your favorite time of year?
- g) If I Were an Astronaut
- h) Should your family move to a new city?
- i) The Causes of the Civil War
- j) The Story of Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox

SAMPLE

5. Circle the adjectives (describing words) in each sentence below:



- a) Cass was wearing her ugly, green coat. (2)
- b) I saw a shiny penny in the grass. (1)
- c) That was the best cake I ever ate! (1)
- d) Seven aliens tiptoed from the spaceship. (1)
- e) Trevor read twenty-two books last summer. (1)
- f) That is the worst game I've ever played. (1)
- g) Marie is a sad girl. (1)
- h) I love to brush my beautiful red hair! (2)

**SUBTOTAL: /18**

# Gathering Grid



A gathering grid can help you organize information for a research report.

- Write your questions in the left hand column
- Write the title of your sources at the top of each column
- Write answers you find and note where you found them

Topic	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3
Question 1			
Question 2			
Question 3			

**SAMPLE**