

Write for Delight

Toy Stories

Week of November 28, 2016

We are starting a new unit this week and are excited about what we'll be doing in class: having some fun, playing word/writing games, and doing LOTS of writing!!

Each week, we'll be doing some in-class writing, working on the Typing Club program, becoming familiar with e-mail skills, learning to use Google Docs, listening to a read-aloud chapter book, and starting on homework that will be due the following week.

For today:

- Typing Club (one session in class, three more on your own at home). Note that today I (Roxanne) reset the history for each student. The down side of doing this is that their "stars" and other earned program awards disappeared. The upside is that their speed should show an increase, because it will no longer be averaged using the very slow speeds from the beginning of the year. It is my goal that by the end of Monday classes next spring, our students will be typing at least 30 words per minute!
- Email to teachers: tell about your Thanksgiving Vacation! (done in class)
- Chapter Book Read Aloud: *Mystery of the Sock Monkeys*, chapters 1-3
- Homework: My Favorite Toy. Write about a favorite toy from your young childhood. We'll do some brainstorming in class to determine the three main points that students will make in their writing, and start on an organizer or outline. Students will complete their rough and final draft at home, and return all parts, along with a completed rubric, when they return to class next week. The assignment should be stapled together in this order:
On top: rubric, followed by final draft, rough draft and organizer. If students do all their work on the computer, they can print their rough draft before making changes...

Next Week: In class we will have a selection of short chapter "mystery" books for students to check out. Please plan for them to have time to read it by December 16. We will be doing an in-class activity that day related to the books they read. They also will need to bring the books with them on the 16th.

To think about: at the conclusion of this unit, students will be writing "toy shop mysteries" along the lines of the read aloud book we're using in class. We are hoping to have them write and submit their stories via google classroom, which we will be learning to use. The stories will be assembled into booklets that will be distributed to each participating student. I hope EVERYONE does this assignment. Details to come.....



Expository Writing Outline/Brainstorming

I. Introduction: _____

II. Main Point #1 _____

A. DETAIL #1: _____

B. DETAIL #2: _____

C. DETAIL #3: _____

III. Main Point #2 _____

A. DETAIL #1: _____

B. DETAIL #2: _____

C. DETAIL #3: _____

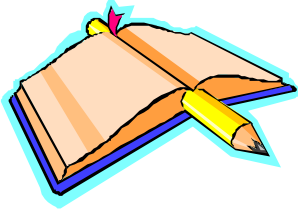
IV. Main Point #3: _____

A. DETAIL #1: _____

B. DETAIL #2: _____

C. DETAIL #3: _____

V. Conclusion (restate opinion and reasons) _____



EXPOSITORY WRITING SAMPLE RUBRIC

Name _____ Date _____

Assignment/Title _____

I think....

Parent/Teacher thinks...

☺ 4 3 2 1 ☹

Is it interesting to read?

☺ 4 3 2 1 ☹

Writing is easy to understand and follow. (*organization, idea*)

Detail is precise and rich.. (*word choice*)

Reader's attention is captured. (*idea, voice*)

Sentences show variety in length, beginning words, type and structure. (*fluency*)

An appropriate amount of information is given. (*idea*)

The text sounds good when read aloud. (*fluency*)

☺ 4 3 2 1 ☹

Is it easy to read and understand?

☺ 4 3 2 1 ☹

The writing clearly has a beginning, middle and end. (*organization*)

The reader can clearly recognize the purpose for the writing.

The purpose is supported with 3 or more clear reasons.

Each reason is supported with details: facts or other appropriate information. (older students)

Appropriate transitional words and phrases enhance the paper's flow. (*organization*)

Sentences are grammatically and structurally correct: no run-ons or fragments. (*fluency, conventions*)

Paragraphs are structured: topic sentence, details, closing or bridge sentence. (*organization*)

Spelling, capitalization and punctuation are correct. (*conventions*)

☺ 4 3 2 1 ☹

Is the assignment complete?

☺ 4 3 2 1 ☹

The writing is of a persuasive nature.

A graphic organizer or plan has been used and is attached.

A rough draft (attached) shows evidence of revision and editing.

The final draft is visually attractive and appropriate for the purpose of the assignment.

In complete sentences, use the vocabulary of this rubric to tell what you like about this piece of writing.

Tell what you will seek to improve in your next piece of writing.
