

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 1

Name: _____
Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 136: Writing Techniques, *Analogy*

Directions: Write analogies using the following pairs.

Teach a Mini Lesson using *Write AHEAD* page 136

1. Personal journals: photo albums

2. Nardo: A boxer (HINT: review today's visual and oral language activity.)

3. School: Work

4. Friends: Family

5. Manny: _____

6. _____ : _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 2

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 137: Writing Techniques, *Metaphor*

Teach a Mini Lesson using *Write AHEAD* page 137

Directions: Write metaphors using the following items.

1. Football, King

2. Hands, Wings

3. Hands, Honey

4. Chile peppers,

5. _____, _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 3

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write *AHEAD*

Read Write AHEAD Page 138: Writing Techniques, *Simile*

Directions: Write similes using the following items.

1. Faye's little brother, water bug

2. Lake, Mirror

3. Garcia Boys, Chimpanzees

4. Manny's Dad, _____

5. _____, _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 4

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 136-138 Writing Techniques, *Exaggeration*, *Local Color*, and, *Sensory Details*

Directions: Write the correct word next to the corresponding definition. Then copy the sample sentence in the space below.

1. _____ An overstatement or stretching of the truth used to emphasize a point or paint a clearer picture.

2. _____ Specific details that are usually perceived through the senses. Sensory details help readers see, feel, smell, taste, and/or hear what is being described.

3. _____ The use of details that are common in a certain place (a local area).

A story taking place on a seacoast would contain details about...

Activity: Pretend you are Manny's mother. Answer the following questions from her point of view in regards to exaggeration, sensory details, and local color.

1. Using exaggeration, tell your husband how he is acting.

2. Imagine you are yelling at Papa. Tell what your heart is doing. Describe the lump in your throat and the colors you see when you close your eyes.

3. In yelling at Papa about breaking up this family, add one to two pieces of local color- things from the Hernandez' past, house, or neighborhood.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 21: Writing Traits In Action, *Logical Organization*

Directions: After reading the passage from **The Short Sweet Dream of Eduardo Gutie'rrez**, place the following phrases in chronological order.

_____ Then in the first heat of the morning

_____ At dawn...

_____ Suddenly...

_____ Some moments later.....

Activity: Using linking words or phrases to signify chronological order, retell the part of today's reading from the time Mr. Hart pulls up in the project parking lot to the time Manny's Dad storms off with his money.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 6

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 21: Writing Traits in Action, *Stimulating Ideas*

Directions: Answer the following questions about the stimulating you learned reading the passage from **Catfish and Mandala**

1. Where had Pham been just prior to moving home?

2. What did you learn about Vietnamese culture?

3. What information has Pham given you that even his friends and family do not know?

Activity: Think of a story or myth that is often told in your family. List the stimulating details of the story below. If you get stuck, try answering the five W's (who, what, where, when, why). Or try adding figurative language and sensory details. You do not have to answer all of the blanks.

Who: _____

What: _____

Where: _____

When: _____

Why: _____

Figurative Language:

Sights:

Smells: _____
Sounds: _____

Feelings: _____

Tastes: _____

Other details:

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 7

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 22: Writing Traits in Action, *Engaging Voice*

Directions: Imagine you are Manny's Mom, watching her husband be taken away by the police. Express the following feelings in a way you feel she would speak. Be engaging.

1. Frustration:

2. Powerlessness:

3. Panic:

.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 8

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 22: Writing Traits in Action, *Original Word Choice*

Directions: Having read the passage from **A Beautiful Mind**, locate and record all the image-rich verbs, like “thundering” in the paragraph. There are at least 6.

Verbs

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Activity: Brainstorm at least 6 image-rich words you would use in telling the story of the Parrot in the Oven.

7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Activity: If the parrot in the oven is the symbol for Manny’s 14th year of life, what might symbolize yours? Record the symbol of your biography. Then brainstorm image-rich words you might use in explaining the relation.

13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 9

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write *AHEAD*

Read Write AHEAD Page 23: Writing Traits in Action, *Effective Sentence Style*

Directions: Count up the number of words in each sentence. Then record the first word of each sentence.

1. 14 : Most
2. _____ : _____
3. _____ : _____
4. _____ : _____
5. _____ : _____
6. _____ : _____
7. _____ : _____

Activity: Recall Manny's dream. Re-tell it in five sentences. Vary the length of each sentence, and start each sentence with a different word or phrase.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 10

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 23: Writing Traits in Action, *Correct, Accurate Copy*

Directions: Correctly punctuate the following conversation.

I've decided not to come in for any meetings I told the magistrate.

It's not up to you he said angrily. The law requires you come it.

I'm not coming in.

We can go get you.

You can't find me.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 11

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 159: Biographical Writing.

Directions: *Fill in the Blanks.*

1. Of all the topics available to you the one you know the best is _____.
2. The topic you know second best would probably be someone _____
_____ - a friend, a family member, or a neighbor.
3. When you write about another person – someone you know or someone that interests you- you are involved in _____.
4. My job as a biographer is to share a story from that person's life in an _____.
5. This chapter contains two types of biographical writing: Someone you _____ and someone you would like to _____.

[NOTE: Over the next two weeks you are going to write a phase biography about someone in your class. You will interview each other, trade stories and details. It will be up to you to tell their story in an effective way, using stimulating ideas, logical organization, engaging voice, original word choice and correct, accurate copy. Remember, your job is to tell your partner's story in an appealing way.]

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 12

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 160-161: Sample Biographical Essay, *He D.A.R.E.S. to Make A difference*.

Directions: Having read “He Dares...,” briefly summarize the parts below:

1. What story does the author tell to introduce you to the topic?

2. What were the exact words of her subject?

3. What are the specific details the author includes about her subject in the middle portion of the biography?

4. What advice does the author close with?

Activity: Imagine you are going to tell your biography to your partner. Summarize what you would want to include using the same format as above.

1. What story would you tell your partner to introduce your topic?

2. What quote might you want to make sure is included when you verbally tell your story?

3. What other specific details might be important?

4. What message would you like your biographer to understand?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 13

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 162: Writing Guidelines, *Prewriting: Choosing A Topic and Gathering Details*

Directions: Search your Memory. Write down five important things you already know about your biography partner.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Activity: Observe your partner.

1. Describe your partner's looks using positive remarks.

2. Describe your partner's reactions to this assignment. Is he/she excited? Reluctant to participate? Neutral? How can you tell?

Activity: Interview Him or her. Write down three questions to ask your partner regarding something that disappointed him/her during the phase of life you are going to write about.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 14

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 163: Writing Guidelines, *Writing the First Draft*

Directions: Your partner has told you about the event in his or life that affected them strongly. He/she has also provided you with more details. You have observed him/her, interviewed, and recorded what you know and what you have learned. Write draft beginning for your biography. Introduce your subject and topic (the person and the event you are covering). You may also wish to include an anecdotal story that indicates why your biographical topic is going to be important and appealing.

I. Beginning—Story and Introduction

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 15

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 163: Writing Guidelines, *Writing the First Draft*

Directions: Ask your partner about the event in his or life that affected them strongly. He/she has also provided you with more details. You have observed him/her, interviewed, and recorded what you know and what you have learned. Write an outline for the middle and end of your biography. Your middle should include the rising action and the climax. It should also include setting and sensory details of the event as well as quotations from your main character(s). The ending should include the resolution and conclude with a lesson.

II. Middle: Rising Action, Climax, Details, Quotations

III. End: Resolution, lesson

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 16

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 164: Writing Guidelines, *Revising*

Directions: Copy the revision checklist. Use it later to revise your journal.

1. _____:
2. _____:
3. _____:
4. _____:
5. _____:

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 17

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 164: Writing Guidelines, *Editing*

Directions: Use the four error correcting tools to edit the following sentences.

1. Elderly people who couldn't walk were trapped inside. We kicked down the doors and carried them out over our shoulders.
2. I lingered over my mom's pruned rosebushes. I was fingering the ashy thorns on the stems. I pricked my finger and out popped a small globe of blood. It tasted like copper."

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 18

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 164-165: A Closer Look at Biographical Writing, *Planning Tips, Writing Tips*

Directions: Write the correct sub-heading next to its description.

1. _____

If you find conflicting facts or details about the person, use the source that seems most reliable.

2. _____

Use an important print resource, one or two Web sites, an interview, and so on. This will allow you to learn about the person from different perspectives.

3. _____

Even a small factual error can affect the overall quality of your writing.

4. _____

If you are well prepared and sound knowledgeable and interested, the person you are interviewing will probably talk more freely with you.

Activity: Record the three main, bulleted writing tips below.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 19

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 166: Sample Phase Biography, *Please Excuse Leah*

Directions: Having read the phase biography, *Please Excuse Leah*, review the closing paragraph. It provides the reader with resolution and a lesson in an appealing manner. Try writing the conclusion for your phase biography about your partner's life (or character) changing event. The sample story conclusion contains humor. Yours may or may not. [HINT: you may wish to review your Write Ahead lesson from day 15, as you outlined your conclusion there.]

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Parrot in the Oven, Day 20

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write AHEAD

Read Write AHEAD Page 24: Evaluating Your Writing, *Assessment Rubric*

Directions: Complete the Assessment Rubric. You and your teacher will use it to evaluate your final draft of your biography.

____ STIMULATING IDEAS

The Writing...

- _____
- _____
- _____

____ LOGICAL ORGANIZATION

- _____
- _____

____ ENGAGING VOICE

- _____
- _____

____ ORIGINAL WORD CHOICE

- _____
- _____

____ CORRECT, ACCURATE COPY

- _____
- _____