

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 1

Name: _____

Date: _____

8. Bridge to a Language Building Lesson

Read: Pg. 159, Biographical Writing

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. According to the author, who is the easiest person to write about?

2. Who is the second easiest?

3. That type of writing is called...

4. Regardless of who you write about, what is the purpose of biographical writing?

5. List five people you know, who have committed selfless acts that you might like to write about.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 2

Name: _____

Date: _____

Read: Pgs. 160--161, Sample Biographical Essay: "He D.A.R.E.s to Make a Difference"

Activity: This biography has three parts, a beginning, a middle, and an end. According to the margins, the writer accomplishes certain things in each section. In the space provided, explain how the author accomplishes each:

1. Beginning- The Writer uses a story to introduce her subject. What happens in the story?

2. Middle- She shares the exact words of her subject. Write the quote here.

3. Middle- She also includes specific details about her subject. What are those details?

4. End- The writer closes with an important piece of advice. Write the advice here:

Activity: Consider the list of five people who have committed selfless acts that you made yesterday. Choose one you would like to write about. Use the Beginning, Middle and End Prompts to help you plan the story.

1. Beginning- Use a story to introduce your subject:

2. Middle- Include a quote or two you're your subject:

3. Middle- Include specific details about your subject:

4. End- Close with an important piece of advice:

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 3

Name: _____

Date: _____

Read: Pg. 162, Prewriting

Activity: List as many people as possible that might fit into each of the following categories

1. Family members or friends:

2. People who have influenced you positively:

3. Other people that interest you:

Read: Pg. 162, Gathering Details

Activity: No matter who you are writing about, the sources of information are the same. List them below.

1. _____

Read: Pg. 163, Writing: Writing the First Draft

Activity: As the final writing product for today, you are going to write a biographical narrative about Ji-li Jiang. Use the space below to plan the beginning, middle and end of your narrative as she takes up the cause to rid China of the Fourolds.

Beginning- Say something interesting about the central character. Tell what the story is going to be about.

Middle – Organize your story according to time or importance:

Ending – Explain the importance of the story:

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 4

Name: _____

Date: _____

Read: Pg. 164, Revising: Improving Your Writing

Activity: Copy down the five revision questions below. You will use them shortly to revise your journal prompt.

- _____ 1. _____

- _____ 2. _____

- _____ 3. _____

- _____ 4. _____

- _____ 5. _____

Read: Pg. 164, Editing

Activity: Fill in the blanks. Then complete the steps using today's journal.

Check your revised writing first for _____ - the smoothness of your sentences and the effectiveness of your _____. Then check it for correctness- _____, punctuation, usage, and _____ errors.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Read: Pg. 165-166, A closer look at biographical writing and “Please Excuse Leah”

Activity: Use the Writing Tips on page 165 to answer the questions about the story on page 166.

1. What background information does Jesse Niebor provide about her sister Leah?

2. Does the author use any transitions or introductory phrases?

3. What information does the author simply summarize for you?

Activity: Today for your final writing product you will write a biography of the Jiang family from the perspective of Ji-li’s overzealous classmate, Du Hai. What specific event(s) in the Jiang family history might you focus on, and which events might you choose to simply summarize?

- 1.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 6

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: Pg. 173, Writing News Stories

Activity: List the three basic reporting skills:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Read: Pg. 174, Ramos Wins Award

Activity: List the three most important facts that Janelle Amos had to collect in order to write this story on the Delmer High School Senior-of-the-Year Award.

4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Activity: Pretend you are a reporter in China. List the five most important facts from today's story.

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

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 7

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: Pg. 175, Writing Guidelines and Prewriting

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. What five questions should be answered in the introductory paragraph?

2. List the who, what, where, when, and why for a local news story you are aware of.

3. List the who, what, when, where, and why for a human interest story about someone close to you.

4. List the who, what, when, where and why of today's *Red Scarf Girl* reading.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 8

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: Pg. 176, Gathering Details and Interview Tips

Activity: Pretend you are a reporter for a Chinese government-owned newspaper. Write five interview questions you would ask Jia Hong-yu, the Red Guard who traveled to Beijing, if you met her. Each question should start with Who, What, When, Where or Why.

1. Who:

2. What:

3. Where:

4. When:

5. Why:

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 9

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: Pg. 177, Writing and Revising

Activity: Answer the questions below.

1. Where do the rest of the details not mentioned in the introduction go? In the Beginning, middle or End?

2. Should you use quotations in a news article? How often?

Activity: Copy the Revision checklist. You will use it to revise today's journal.

_____ 1.	_____

_____ 2.	_____

_____ 3.	_____

_____ 4.	_____

_____ 5.	_____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 10

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: Pg. 178, Editing: Checking for Style and Correctness

Activity: Complete the sentences on editing below.

1. First, _____

2. Then, _____

Activity: Use the editing tools to edit the following mistakes.

1. Fix the spelling in speling.
2. Provide a more specific noun for acceptance *talk*.
3. Correct this sentence fragment. I like her. Helped us out a lot.
4. Make a correction in capitalization to Ji-Li Jiang.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 11

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: pg. 179-180 Editorial beginning, Topic/Opinion

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. What do editorials address?

2. What is the opinion of Eboni Lewis' editorial that is presented in the introduction?

3. Imagine you are a newspaper writer assigned to write an editorial about teenage drinking. Select a more specific topic. Then from that topic, create an opinion.

Topic: _____

Opinion: _____

4. According to the Tips for Writing, why is it important to be direct when presenting your opinion in an editorial?

5. Does Eboni Lewis present her topic and her opinion clearly? Is there anything that she needs to change?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 12

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: pg. 179-180 Editorial middle, Plan a Strong Argument

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. What information should be presented in the middle of an editorial?

2. Why is it important to plan a strong argument?

3. Pretend you are an American newspaper agent just returning from China. Plan an editorial in favor of continuing the Cultural Revolution or in favor of Ending it. Formulate an opinion and use the five steps to plan a strong argument for your editorial.

Opinion: _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. What do you include in the ending of an editorial?

Activity: Match the tip with the explanation of that tip.

- _____ 1. Carefully consider your strongest argument
- _____ 2. Speak with confidence.
- _____ 3. Keep things
- _____ 4. Act responsibly
 - a. Speak honestly and show that you really care about the topic. Also, make sure that you present a logical, reasonable argument.
 - b. Place your strongest argument first or last so that it has a lasting impression on your readers
 - c. The purpose of an editorial is to express your feelings about an action or event, not to attack a person or a group.
 - d. Don't try to impress readers with your high-powered vocabulary. Instead, use words that everyone can understand.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 13

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: Pg. 117 Writing Persuasive Essays

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. What does persuasion mean?

2. Persuasion usually follows a pattern. Number the following pieces of the pattern in order to properly sequence them:

_____ State your opinion.

_____ Restate your opinion.

_____ Support it.

_____ deal with any opposing viewpoints.

3. What two higher levels of thinking will be required of you to write a persuasive essay?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 14

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: Pgs. 118-119, *Sample Persuasive Essay: "Teens Dial Up"*

Activity: Answer the following questions concerning the essay, "Teens Dial Up."

1. How many main points does the author use to support his opinion?

2. What else does he do in the last paragraph?

3. Locate and rewrite the author's opinion (or thesis statement) in your own words.

4. If you were to write a persuasive statement about Ji-li's parents, what would it be?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 15

Name: _____
 Date: _____

Review: pgs. 118-119 “Teens Dial Up”

Activity: There are three arguments for why teens ought to have cell phones. Fill in the blanks on the outline below;

- I. Parents buy cells for kids as a safety measure
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - i. EXAMPLE: _____

- II. Cell phones make kids healthier
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

- III. Cell phones teach _____
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

Review: pgs. 118-119 “Teens Dial Up” and yesterday’s *WriteAHEAD* outline.

Activity: Use examples from the text to fill in the outline for an essay on the importance of friends and family over politics.

- I. Friends and family are more important than politics.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 16

Name: _____

Date: _____

Review: Pgs 118-119, “Teens Dial Up” Opposing viewpoints

Activity: In your own words explain the opposing viewpoint and the concessions provided.

Activity: Review the outline from yesterday. Fill out an outline for an opposing viewpoint and its concessions.

II. While China and Chairman Mao certainly deserve my love and devotion...

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 17

Name: _____
 Date: _____

Read: Pg. 121, Writing: Writing the First Draft

Activity: Use the space provided to summarize using your own words what belongs in the beginning, middle and ending of a persuasive essay.

Beginning:

Middle:

Ending:

Activity: Write an outline for a persuasive essay on the importance of working for justice- respecting the rights of others, treating everyone with dignity, and fighting for what is right. Use details from *Red Scarf Girl* and from your own life.

- I. _____
 a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____

- II. _____
 a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____

- III. _____
 a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____

IV. _____
a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

V. _____
a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead

Red Scarf Girl, Day 18

Name: _____

Date: _____

Read: Pg. 121, Writing Persuasive Essays, Revising and Editing

Activity: Use your Outline on justice to write the first two paragraphs- the introduction and a paragraph on respecting the right of others.

[illegible]

Activity: Re-read your paragraphs from today. Use the Revision checklist below. Make any changes you need to make.

_____ Does the opening paragraph give background information and state my opinion?

_____ Do the main points in the middle paragraphs support my opinion?

_____ Are the main points organized so that the readers will be able to follow my argument?

_____ Did I address any opposing viewpoints?

_____ Does the closing paragraph tie everything together and help readers to see the value of my opinion?

****NOTE:** Do not worry about the last two if you have not written those paragraphs yet.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 19

Name: _____
 Date: _____

Read: pg. 284 1-3

Activity: Answer questions about writing persuasive essays.

1. What are the resources you should use to thoroughly research your topic?

2. What is the next step after you research your topic?

3. What is the difference between a topic and an opinion?

4. What two things make a good opinion statement?

_____ + _____

5. What should you avoid when writing a good opinion statement?

6. Write an opinion statement about Thin-Face using the formula.

_____ + _____ =

Read: pg. 284 4-5

Activity: Answer questions about facts and opinions and decide which facts are provable and which ones are improvable.

1. What are the two ways that you can organize your facts?

a. _____

b. _____

2. Which supporting facts are provable and which are improvable?

A. Opinion: Thin-Face is the true enemy of Chairman Mao's China.

_____ fact: Thin-Face is only interested in his own self gain.

_____ fact: Thin-Face tortured Ji-li's grandmother and harmed her brother in order to force a confession.

Read: pg. 285 Avoiding Unclear Thinking, Avoid statements that jump to a conclusion

Activity: Answer questions about unclear thinking.

1. Why should you avoid jumping to conclusions in your writing?

Explain why these statements jump to a conclusion and revise them so that they no longer jump to that conclusion.

1. I can't find my car keys, so someone must have stolen them.

Revision: _____

2. The movie is not sold out, so it must not be very good.

Revision: _____

3. The sun is shining, so it must be summer.

Revision: _____

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Red Scarf Girl, Day 20

Name: _____
Date: _____

Read: Pg. 125, Evaluating Persuasive Essays: Assessment Rubric

Activity: Fill in the blanks to complete this rubric.

_____ STIMULATING IDEAS
The Essay...

- _____
- _____

_____ LOGICAL ORGANIZATION

- _____
- _____
- _____

_____ ENGAGING VOICE

- _____
- _____

_____ ORIGINAL WORD CHOICE

- _____
- _____

_____ EFFECTIVE SENTENCE STYLE

- _____
- _____

_____ CORRECT, ACCURATE COPY

- _____
- _____