

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 1

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 3

Read: pg. 3 All About Writing

Activity: Answer the following questions about writing.

1. Make a list of the things you know about writing, including the different types of writing:

2. James L. Collins says, "Control is at the heart of writing development." What does this mean? What is control?

3. How are writing and basketball similar? What do they have in common?

4. How many steps are in the writing process?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 2

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 4

Read: pg. 4 Building Good Writing Habits

Activity: Answer the following questions about good writing habits.

1. How might reading help you to become a better writer? Think of your favorite book. What do you like about that book? How could you incorporate those things into your own writing?

2. What are some of the different types of writing that you might try?

3. Do you think it will be easier to write about topics that matter to you rather than topics that you don't really care about? Why is this?

4. What are some of the things that you should add to your writing vocabulary?

5. It is important to be proud of your writing. What are some of the ways that you can make sure you feel good about your writing?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 3

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 5

Read: pg. 5 The Steps in the Writing Process

Activity: Answer the following questions about the writing process.

1. Why is writing a process? What does that mean?

2. Why do you think it is important to follow these steps?

Activity: Put the steps in the correct order.

_____ A writer reviews the first draft and changes any parts that are not clear or complete. He or she may also ask a partner to review the draft.

_____ The writer explores possible topics before selecting one to write about. A topic can be a person, a place, a thing, an event, or an idea. Then a Writer collects details about the topic and plans how to use them.

_____ A writer then edits the revised writing from style and correctness and prepares a neat final copy. The final copy is proofread for errors before is shared.

_____ A writer does the actual writing, connecting his or her ideas about the topic. This writing is called the first draft because it is not a finished piece.

_____ The writer shares their piece of writing.

Activity: Answer the following questions by choosing True or False.

1. True/False. All writers use the same writing process.

2. True/False. When writing you cannot move back and forth between steps.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 4

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 6

Read: pg. 6 The Writing Process in Action, Prewriting

Activity: Answer the following questions about the writing process and prewriting.

1. How will following these steps help you to do good writing?

2. Why is it important to choose a topic that you are interested in?

3. What are some of the places to gather details about your topic?

4. Should you include all of the details that you gathered in your writing?
Why or why not?

5. What is the difference between a topic and a focus?

6. Imagine that your topic for writing is baseball. What could be your focus
for that topic?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 7

Read: pg. 7 The Writing Process in Action, Writing, Revising, Editing, Publishing

Activity: Answer the following questions about the writing process.

1. Why should you write a first draft?

2. Does your first draft have to be perfect? Why or why not?

3. What does it mean to keep your audience in mind when you are writing?

4. What is the difference between revising and editing?

5. Why should you wait a while before revising your first draft?

6. What is the goal of revising and editing your work?

7. What is a portfolio?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 6

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 8

Read: pg. 8 A Basic Writing Guide

Activity: Answer the following questions about writing.

1. Imagine that you are writing about someone you admire. What would be the first steps in this writing process?

2. Why do you think it would be hard to do good work if you are writing about a topic that you aren't passionate about?

3. Make a list of the things that interest you. Do you think you would be able to write about these topics?

4. Where are some of the places that you would gather details about your writing?

5. If you are writing about yourself, do you need to gather details from outside sources?

6. If you are writing about a current event, where would you go to gather details?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 7

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 9

Read: pg. 9 A Basic Writing Guide

Activity: Answer the following questions about writing.

1. Do you need to use all of the information that you have gathered for your writing?

2. Look at the following set of words. Identify which one is the topic and which is the focus.

a. baseball / steroid use by athletes

b. presidential election / voter turnout

3. What should you try to do in your first draft?

4. What is the difference between a first draft and a final draft?

5. What are the things you should focus on when you are revising your work?

6. Use one of the writing samples you have written in response to the reading and follow the writing guide's suggestions for revising your work.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 8

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 10

Read: pg. 10 A Basic Writing Guide

Activity: Answer the following questions and complete the following exercises about writing.

1. Use one of your pieces of writing that you have written in response to the reading. Exchange this piece of writing with your partner and edit their work for spelling and grammar errors.

2. Using that same piece of writing, complete the following checklist to evaluate your writing.

_____ Did I select a topic that really interests me?

_____ Did I find a focus—a special way to write about this topic?

_____ Did I make changes in the writing so that all of my ideas are clearly stated?

_____ Did I ask others to review my writing?

3. Why should you make revisions before you finish fixing all of the spelling and grammar errors?

4. What are the things that result in good writing?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 9

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 11

Read: pg. 11 One Writer's Process

Activity: Answer the following questions about the writing process.

1. What is writer's block? Have you ever experienced writer's block?

2. What kind of risks can you take in writing? How can authors be risk takers?

3. Why does Maxwell Perkins say to just get your writing down on paper? What does he mean?

4. Should every author follow the same process? Why or why not?

5. Will one author always use the same writing process, or will it differ based on what they are writing?

6. Is it possible to write an effective story or essay without going through the steps of the writing process? Why or why not?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 10

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 12

Read: pg. 12 Prewriting, Gathering details

Activity: Answer the following questions about prewriting.

1. Imagine that you, like Latrisha Jones, are being asked to write about a personal adventure. Make a list of possible topics:

2. Review that list and pick the adventure that you want to write about.

Topic:

3. Gather details about that topic by answering the 5 Ws and H.

Who:

What:

When:

Where:

Why:

How:

4. Create a time line like Latrisha's to help organize the events for your writing.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 11

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 13

Read: pg. 13 Writing the First Draft

Activity: Complete the following exercise about writing a first draft.

1. After reading Latrisha's first draft, write your own first draft about your personal adventure using your prewriting exercises to help you.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 12

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 14

Read: pg. 14 Revising, Improving Your Writing

Activity: Complete the following exercises about improving your writing.

1. Look at the revisions that Latrisha made to her writing. Would you make any other revisions? Do you think her revisions were necessary? Why or why not?

2. Review your first draft and make revisions. Make sure to pay attention to organization, style, ideas, and voice.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 13

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 15

Read: pg. 15 Revising, Using Peer Responses

Activity: Answer the following questions and complete the following activities about revising using peer responses.

1. Why do you think a peer edit might be helpful in revising your writing?

2. Look at the revisions Latrisha's friend made to Latrisha's writing. What kind of things does her friend recommend or add to the writing?

2. Choose a partner and exchange your first drafts. Make the necessary changes to your partner's writing. Then meet with your partner and discuss the changes that were made.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 14

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 16

Read: pg. 16 Editing, Checking for Style

Activity: Answer the following questions and complete the following activities about checking for style.

1. What are some of the things you should pay attention to in your writing when checking for style?

2. What are some of the things that Latrisha focused on in her edits for style?

3. Edit your own writing, checking for style.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 15

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 17

Read: pg. 17 Editing, Checking for Correctness

Activity: Answer the following questions and complete the following activities about editing for correctness.

1. What is the difference between editing for style and editing for correctness?

2. Why did Latrish ask her mother to check for correctness?

3. What should you look for when editing for correctness? Why should this be the last step in revising and editing?

4. Edit your work for correctness, paying attention to writing errors.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 16

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 18

Read: pg. 18 Publishing, Sharing Your Writing

Activity: Answer the following questions and complete the following activities about editing for correctness.

1. What does publishing mean?

2. Prepare your writing for publishing. Rewrite your work with all of the necessary revisions and edits. Then share your writing with your classmates.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 17

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 19

Read: pg. 19 Traits of effective writing.

Activity: Answer the following questions about the traits of effective writing.

1. How are writers similar to jazz players?

2. What does it mean when Ken Macrorie says, "Good writing is formed partly through plan and partly through accident?"

3. Why is it important to keep an open mind during writing? What kinds of things could come from this open mind?

4. What could happen if you try to force writing?

5. What is the difference between effective writing and ineffective writing?

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 18

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 20

Read: pg. 20 Traits of Effective Writing

Activity: Answer the following questions about the traits of effective writing.

1. What is a trait?

2. Fill in the blanks with the correct trait.

_____ In the best writing, you can hear the writer's personal voice. Voice is the special way a writer expresses his or her ideas. Writing that has voice shows that a writer really cares about his or her topic.

_____ Effective writing presents plenty of interesting information. It holds a reader's attention from start to finish and shows that the writer knows a lot about his or her topic.

_____ Good writing contains all the right words in all the right places. It includes vivid action verbs and colorful modifiers.

_____ Good writing has a clearly developed beginning, middle, and ending. The overall organization effectively holds the writing together and makes it easy to follow.

_____ Good writing follows the rules of punctuation, mechanics, usage, and spelling. It is carefully edited to make sure that it is accurate and easy to follow.

_____ Effective writing flows from sentence to sentence, but it isn't predictable. Sentences vary in length and being in different way. Smooth-reading sentences give writing a pleasing rhythm.

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 19

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 21

Read: pg. 21 Writing Traits in Action

Activity: Answer the following questions about writing traits in action.

1. Read the example of the stimulating idea. What makes this a stimulating idea?

2. Write your own example of a stimulating idea:

3. Read the example of logical organization. What makes this an example of logical organization?

4. Write your own example of logical organization:

Character Based Literacy Program Write Ahead
Adventures of Ulysses, Day 20

Name: _____
Date: _____

Teach a mini-Lesson using *Write Ahead* pg. 22

Read: pg. 22 Writing Traits in Action

Activity: Answer the following questions about writing traits in action.

1. Read the example of engaging voice. What makes this a good example of engaging voice?

2. Write your own example of engaging voice:

3. Read the example of original word choice. What makes this a good example of original word choice?

4. Write your own example of original word choice: