

## Weekly Writing Packet — June 1 - June 5

This week you get to choose your writing style. Do you want to write a narrative? Go for it. How about an informational essay where you teach about a topic? You've got this! You might even decide to write an opinion essay where you try to convince someone of an idea. Persuade away. Either way, you will go through the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit and publish a piece of writing. Have fun.

Enclosed in this packet are all the planning sheets, checklists and instructions for all 3 forms of writing. You only need to do one. If you want though you can do 2 or all 3.

### WRITING PROMPT

Choose either a Narrative, Informational Essay or Opinion essay and write a 5 paragraph piece on your choice.

You will use a research planning sheet to plan for a Narrative Essay. Then you will go through the writing process to complete your Narrative essay.

You will go through the writing process in one week.

- \_\_\_ (Monday) Plan
- \_\_\_ (Tuesday) Draft a 5 Paragraph written piece
- \_\_\_ (Wednesday) Edit your writing
- \_\_\_ (Thursday) Revise one part of your writing
- \_\_\_ (Friday) Revise another part, or publish your writing

Remember to skip a line and indent after each section of your draft. Do not put each section on a separate sheet of paper.

- \_\_\_ Write your draft on a separate paper. Write any revisions on a separate sheet of paper.
- \_\_\_ Keep your planning sheets, draft and revisions in a folder.
- \_\_\_ Use the attached directions and checklists to ensure you have the best drafts.

## Plan Your Narrative - Monday

**Directions:** You are the character for this story. Think of a problem or goal you wanted to accomplish.

**BEGINNING**—Decide on a problem or goal for your character to solve. What personality trait are you going to show them have that will either cause the problem or help them solve the problem? Where is this story going to take place? How are you going to describe the setting?

**Character Name/Trait** \_\_\_\_\_

**Problem/Goal?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Setting?** \_\_\_\_\_

**RISING ACTION**—Your character is working to solve their problem or complete a task. Consider the steps your character is doing. Are they trying something and failing, or are they taking small steps to solve the problem?

First, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Then, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Next \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**ENDING**—(Climax / Resolution) How is your character going to solve this problem? What lesson is your character going to learn? Finally,

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Draft a Narrative—Tuesday

Today, you are going to quickly draft an narrative using your planning sheet.

Your goal is to start and finish the Narrative draft within 1 hour.

- **STAY FOCUSED.** Make sure you stay focused on your character’s problem. If it doesn’t help solve the problem, do not write it down.
- **KEEP WRITING.** Refer to your plan when you get stuck.
- **USE YOUR CHECKLIST and PLANNING SHEET.** Your checklist is everything you need in your essay. If you cannot think of what to write next, look at your checklist and your facts. Your planning sheet has all your facts and ideas.
- **DO NOT WORRY ABOUT SPELLING.** Spell words the best you can. Spell them how they sound. Circle any word you are unsure about. You can always fix it during the editing phase.
- **BE SPECIFIC.** Avoid words like stuff, things and it unless you have explained what these things are. Your reader cannot read your mind.
- **READREAD.** Once you are finished with your essay, reread it again 2 times.

**1st REREAD**—Does it look right, sound right and make sense.

Did you accidentally forget a word? Did you accidentally write a word twice?

Notice when you pause. Did you add punctuation? ( . ? ! , )

Do you have a capital letter at the beginning of each sentence and with names?

Did you start a sentence with And, But, Because, Or

**2nd REREAD**—Use your checklist. Reread your essay and point to each part of the checklist that is in your essay. If you forget a part, add it in.

## Author’s Craft—Use an Author’s Craft to Elaborate Your Story

<u>Dialogue</u>	<u>Inner Thinking</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Similes</u>
Show your character talking. Use quotation marks around the words your character says. Use words such as; yelled, cried, whispered, said softly, and others to show how your character sounds.	Show what your character is thinking.	Shows what your character is doing. Use action to show your character’s personality. Use action to show how your character solves the problem.	Compares two things using as, like or than.  She was smart <u>as</u> a scientist. He was fast <u>like</u> lightning It was harder <u>than</u> iron.

## NARRATIVE CHECKLIST

### \_\_\_ I Map out my Idea. (5 - 15 min.)

\_\_\_ I know an interesting, small moment story that can be told in parts.

\_\_\_ I know what my character wants to do, or their problem.

\_\_\_ I know the steps my character takes to solve the problem.

### \_\_\_ I WRITE my Beginning ( 10-15 min.)

\_\_\_ I describe the **setting**.

\_\_\_ I introduce the **character** and show their personality

\_\_\_ I introduce a **problem or struggle** for my character (PLOT).

\_\_\_ I ELABORATE using

\_\_\_ "dialogue"

\_\_\_ inner-thinking actions,

\_\_\_ revealing action

### \_\_\_ I WRITE the middle in 3 paragraphs, the Rising Action, (10-15 min. each)

\_\_\_ I include transition words or phrases to **connect the parts of my story**.

\_\_\_ My character is focused on the struggle or problem.

\_\_\_ I leave out unimportant details and tell more about the important parts.

\_\_\_ I ELABORATE using:

\_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ "dialogue" (in each part)

\_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ inner-thinking actions, (in each part)

\_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ revealing action (in each part)

\_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ simile ( Add one or two similes in your story)

### \_\_\_ I WRITE my Ending (Resolution). (10-15 min.)

\_\_\_ My ending connects to the plot of my story.

\_\_\_ I ELABORATE using

\_\_\_ "dialogue"

\_\_\_ inner-thinking actions,

\_\_\_ revealing action

\_\_\_ My character learns a lesson about themselves or life.

**REREAD** \_\_\_ Does it sound right, Extra words, Missing words, Punctuation, Capitals.

\_\_\_ Reread again to see if you have all the parts of the essay (Use the checklist)

## Edit/Revise and Publish a Narrative — Wed. to Fri.

Over the next three days you will edit, revise and publish your narrative. When you revise you will read your draft and identify one part you did well, and one part you want to make better. You will rewrite only that part.

### EDIT YOUR ESSAY WEDNESDAY — Reread your Narrative

- \_\_\_ **Does it sound right?** Do you have extra words or missing words,
- \_\_\_ **Punctuation.** Notice where you pause in your reading. Is there commas and ending Punctuation?
- \_\_\_ **Capitals.** Do you have Capitals at the beginning of each sentence, with names, and the word I?
- \_\_\_ **Dialogue.** Do you have quotation marks around the words your characters say?
- \_\_\_ **Paragraphs.** Is each part of your story in its own section? Do you indent each new paragraph?
- \_\_\_ **Spelling.** Are your words spelled correctly? Use a dictionary, or google to help you spell words.
- \_\_\_ **Neatness.** Is your handwriting neat so others can read it? Are you forming your letters correctly?

### REVISE YOUR NARRATIVE THURSDAY (reread your narrative the weakest part to revise.)

- \_\_\_ **Write a new Beginning.** Elaborate the setting, show the character's personality more. Change the dialogue, inner thinking, simile. Try a different beginning.
- \_\_\_ **Write a new step in the Rising Action.** Elaborate the setting, show the character's personality more. Change the dialogue, thinking, simile. Try a different step in the action. What could your character have done differently, more focused?)
- \_\_\_ **Write a new Ending.** Elaborate the setting, show the character's personality more. Change the dialogue, thinking, simile. Try a different ending.

### PUBLISH NARRATIVE FRIDAY

- \_\_\_ **Rewrite or Type** your narrative using the edited and revised changes.

**HINT: What you learned from editing and revising your draft, practice doing it the next time you write your first draft.**

## Plan your informational Essay — Monday

**Read:** Find a topic that interests you and come up with 3 related questions someone might wonder about your topic. Use the internet to research each question.

**Hint:** If you find other strong facts from one question in another article, feel free to include them.

### My Questions

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

### Reading — Facts

Facts from article 1

Facts from article 2

Facts from article 3



## Draft an Informational Essay—Tuesday

Today, you are going to quickly draft an informational essay using the questions, answers and facts from your research the day before.

Your goal is to start and finish the Informational Essay draft within 1 hour.

- **STAY FOCUSED.** Make sure you stay focused on your Topic and your questions. If it doesn't help answer the question, do not write it down.
- **KEEP WRITING.** Refer to your plan when you get stuck.
- **USE YOUR CHECKLIST.** Your checklist is everything you need in your essay. If you cannot think of what to write next, look at your checklist and your facts.
- **DO NOT WORRY ABOUT SPELLING.** Spell words the best you can. Spell them how they sound. Circle any word you are unsure about. You can always fix it during the editing phase.
- **BE SPECIFIC.** Avoid words like stuff, things and it unless you have explained what these things are. Your reader cannot read your mind.
- **READREAD.** Once you are finished with your essay, reread it again 2 times.

**1st Reread**—Does it look right, sound right and make sense.

Did you accidentally forget a word? Did you accidentally write a word twice?

Notice when you pause. Did you add punctuation? ( . ? ! , )

Do you have a capital letter at the beginning of each sentence and with names?

Did you start a sentence with And, But, Because, Or

**2nd Reread**—Use your checklist. Reread your essay and point to each part of the checklist that is in your essay. If you forget a part, add it in.

## Author's Craft—Use an Author's Craft to Explain Your Facts

### List and Explain

Give a list of examples.  
Teach about and explain the most important example.

### Micro-story / Anecdote

Give a list of examples. Write a short narrative showing a real life example.

### Compare and Contrast

Give 2 examples. Explain how they are the same and how they are different.

## INFORMATIONAL ESSAY CHECKLIST

### Introduction ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Hook (Write a micro-story or teach and explain the topic is)
- \_\_\_ Thesis (What is your idea you are trying to prove? This is the **main idea** of your essay)
- \_\_\_ 3 Examples (Give 3 examples each in its own sentence—Order them in a reasonable way)

### Subtopic 1 (Explain your first example in a paragraph) ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Transition word or Phrase (one Reason, another reason, More Importantly,)
- \_\_\_ State your example (the main idea of your subtopic)
- \_\_\_ Explain your example (use 2-3 facts and explain the facts using an author's craft)
- \_\_\_ Conclusion ( what is a lesson the reader can learn or action they can do)

### Subtopic 2 (Explain your second example in a paragraph) ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Transition word or Phrase (one Reason, another reason, More Importantly,)
- \_\_\_ State your example (the main idea of your subtopic)
- \_\_\_ Explain your example (use 2-3 facts and explain the facts using an author's craft)
- \_\_\_ Conclusion ( what is a lesson the reader can learn or action they can do)

### Subtopic 3 (Explain your Third example in a paragraph) ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Transition word or Phrase (one Reason, another reason, More Importantly,)
- \_\_\_ State your example (the main idea of your subtopic)
- \_\_\_ Explain your example (use 2-3 facts and explain the facts using an author's craft)
- \_\_\_ Conclusion ( what is a lesson the reader can learn or action they can do)

### Conclusion ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Restate your Thesis (Say it again in a new way)
- \_\_\_ Restate the examples (Say them again in a new way, maybe combine them)
- \_\_\_ Teach and explain a lesson or action for the reader.

- REREAD** \_\_\_ Does it sound right, Extra words, Missing words, Punctuation, Capitals.  
\_\_\_ Reread again to see if you have all the parts of the essay (Use the checklist)

## Edit/Revise and Publish an Informational Essay— Wed. to Fri.

Over the next three days you will edit, revise and publish your narrative. When you revise you will read your draft and identify one part you did well, and one part you want to make better. You will rewrite only that part.

### WEDNESDAY—EDIT YOUR ESSAY —Reread your Informational Essay

- \_\_\_ **Does it sound right?** Do you have extra words or missing words,
- \_\_\_ **Punctuation.** Notice where you pause in your reading. Is there commas and ending Punctuation?
- \_\_\_ **Capitals.** Do you have Capitals at the beginning of each sentence, with names, and the word I?
- \_\_\_ **Paragraphs.** Is each part of your essay in its own section? Do you indent each new paragraph?
- \_\_\_ **Spelling.** Are your words spelled correctly? Use a dictionary, or google to help you spell words.
- \_\_\_ **Neatness.** Is your handwriting neat so others can read it? Are you forming your letters correctly?

### THURSDAY—REVISE YOUR INFORMATIONAL ESSAY (reread your essay and find the weakest part)

- \_\_\_ **Write a new Introduction.** Change your hook. Rewrite your thesis in a new, more interesting way. Make your examples sound more interesting.
- \_\_\_ **Write a new Subtopic.** Change your transition phrase. Try your subtopic main idea a new way. Try a different author's craft. Try a new lesson or conclusion.
- \_\_\_ **Write a new Conclusion.** Restate your Thesis in a new, more interesting way. Restate your examples in an interesting way. Offer a different lesson or action the reader can do.

### FRIDAY—PUBLISH YOUR INFORMATIONAL ESSAY

- \_\_\_ Rewrite or type your narrative using the edited and revised changes.

**HINT: What you learned from editing and revising your draft, practice doing it the next time you write your first draft.**

## Plan Your Opinion Essay —Monday

Come up with an opinion that can be supported by facts. Use the internet to research your opinion.

Come up with 3 different but related reasons to support your opinion.

Finally, you will write down 3-5 facts from each article to support your reasons.

### My Opinion—My Claim

### Reasons and Facts

Reason 1

Reason 2

Reason 3

Facts from articles

Facts from articles

Facts from articles



## Draft an Opinion Essay—Tuesday

Today, you are going to quickly draft an opinion essay using the claim, reasons and facts from your research the day before.

Your goal is to start and finish the Opinion Essay draft within 1 hour.

- **STAY FOCUSED.** Make sure you stay focused on your Claim and your Reasons. If it doesn't help answer prove your case, do not write it down.
- **KEEP WRITING.** Refer to your plan when you get stuck.
- **USE YOUR CHECKLIST.** Your checklist is everything you need in your essay. If you cannot think of what to write next, look at your checklist and your facts.
- **DO NOT WORRY ABOUT SPELLING.** Spell words the best you can. Spell them how they sound. Circle any word you are unsure about. You can always fix it during the editing phase.
- **BE SPECIFIC.** Avoid words like stuff, things and it unless you have explained what these things are. Your reader cannot read your mind.
- **READREAD.** Once you are finished with your essay, reread it again 2 times.

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Did you start a sentence with And, But, Because, Or

**2nd Reread**—Use your checklist. Reread your essay and point to each part of the checklist that is in your essay. If you forget a part, add it in.

## Author's Craft—Use an Author's Craft to Explain Your Reasons

### List and Explain

Give a list of examples.  
Teach about and explain the most important example.

### Micro-story / Anecdote

Give a list of examples. Write a short narrative showing a real life example.

### Compare and Contrast

Give 2 examples. Explain how they are the same and how they are different.

## OPINION ESSAY CHECKLIST

### Introduction ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Hook (Write a micro-story or teach and explain the topic is)
- \_\_\_ Claim (What is your opinion you are trying to prove? This is the **main idea** of your essay)
- \_\_\_ 3 Reasons (Give 3 reasons each in its own sentence—Order them in a reasonable way )

### Subtopic 1 (Explain your first reason in a paragraph) ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Transition word or Phrase (one Reason, another reason, More Importantly,)
- \_\_\_ State your reason (the main idea of your subtopic)
- \_\_\_ Explain your reason (use 2-3 facts and explain the facts using an author's craft)
- \_\_\_ Conclusion ( what is a lesson the reader can learn or action they can do)

### Subtopic 2 (Explain your second reason in a paragraph) ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Transition word or Phrase (one Reason, another reason, More Importantly,)
- \_\_\_ State your reason (the main idea of your subtopic)
- \_\_\_ Explain your reason (use 2-3 facts and explain the facts using an author's craft)
- \_\_\_ Conclusion ( what is a lesson the reader can learn or action they can do)

### Subtopic 3 (Explain your Third reason in a paragraph) ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Transition word or Phrase (one Reason, another reason, More Importantly,)
- \_\_\_ State your reason (the main idea of your subtopic)
- \_\_\_ Explain your reason (use 2-3 facts and explain the facts using an author's craft)
- \_\_\_ Conclusion ( what is a lesson the reader can learn or action they can do)

### Conclusion ( 10-15 min.)

- \_\_\_ Restate your claim /opinion (Say it again in a new way)
- \_\_\_ Restate the reasons (Say them again in a new way, maybe combine them)
- \_\_\_ Teach and explain a lesson or action for the reader.

- REREAD** \_\_\_ Does it sound right, Extra words, Missing words, Punctuation, Capitals.  
\_\_\_ Reread again to see if you have all the parts of the essay (Use the checklist)

## Edit/Revise and Publish an Opinion Essay— Wed. to Fri.

Over the next three days you will edit, revise and publish your narrative. When you revise you will read your draft and identify one part you did well, and one part you want to make better. You will rewrite only that part.

### WEDNESDAY—EDIT YOUR ESSAY —Reread your Opinion Essay

- \_\_\_ **Does it sound right?** Do you have extra words or missing words,
- \_\_\_ **Punctuation.** Notice where you pause in your reading. Is there commas and ending Punctuation?
- \_\_\_ **Capitals.** Do you have Capitals at the beginning of each sentence, with names, and the word I?
- \_\_\_ **Paragraphs.** Is each part of your essay in its own section? Do you indent each new paragraph?
- \_\_\_ **Spelling.** Are your words spelled correctly? Use a dictionary, or google to help you spell words.
- \_\_\_ **Neatness.** Is your handwriting neat so others can read it? Are you forming your letters correctly?

### THURSDAY—REVISE YOUR OPINION ESSAY (reread your essay and find the weakest part)

- \_\_\_ **Write a new Introduction.** Change your hook. Rewrite your thesis in a new, more interesting way. Make your examples sound more interesting.
- \_\_\_ **Write a new Reason.** Change your transition phrase. Try your subtopic main idea a new way. Try a different author’s craft. Try a new lesson or conclusion.
- \_\_\_ **Write a new Conclusion.** Restate your Claim in a new, more interesting way. Restate your reasons in an interesting way. Offer a different lesson or action the reader can do.

### FRIDAY—PUBLISH YOUR OPINION ESSAY

- \_\_\_ Rewrite or type your narrative using the edited and revised changes.

**HINT: What you learned from editing and revising your draft, practice doing it the next time you write your first draft.**