

# Grade 7 Parent Writing Tips and Strategies

## Day-to-Day Strategies:

- **Light the Way** - Provide your teen with a well-stocked (e.g. access to a computer, dictionary, thesaurus, pen, pencil, paper, etc.), well-lit, quiet area for writing.
- **Practice Makes Perfect** - Allow your teen to see you write and encourage him to write for various purposes and audiences.
- **Make a Game of It** - Find ways to highlight new words and phrases that you encounter in everyday life in an interesting way.
- **Good Readers Make Good Writers** - Take your teen to the library and share your favorite authors with him. Emphasize the importance of the reading/writing connection.
- **Get Personal With Writing** - Encourage your teen to write about personal thoughts and things that interest him. Maybe even share your own writing.

## Before Starting a Writing Assignment:

- **How May I Help You?** - Ask your teen how you can help. Help him to brainstorm before he writes.
- **I Don't Get It** - Ask your child to explain the assignment to you and ask him what his main point will be. If he can express his ideas verbally, the writing will be easier. If he cannot, encourage him to speak to his teacher.

## Once You Have Finished:

- **Build a Writing Super Hero** - Point out strengths in your teen's writing. It's always best to begin with a positive.
- **It's a Loooooooong Process** - Help your teen to understand that writing is a process. No one gets it right the first time . . . especially good writers. Encourage your teen to breakdown assignments into manageable chunks and to edit and revise his work.
- **Stage Worthy** - Encourage your teen to read his work aloud and to clarify any confusing areas.