

The Structure of the Workshop

Mini-Lesson: (5-10 minutes)

- The class gathers in a meeting area. The teacher teaches the students how to do one particular thing as a writer.
- The mini-lesson has one teaching point and four distinct parts:
 - Connection
 - Teach
 - Active Involvement
 - Link
- The teacher does most of the talking in the mini-lesson.
- The mini-lesson is **NOT** interactive.

Workshop: (25-45 minutes)

- The students leave the meeting area and work at their seats writing. When one piece is completed, students write a new piece.
- The teacher circulates and confers one on one, or with small groups.
- The tone of the workshop is quiet, but not necessarily silent.

Share: (3-5 minutes)

- The class reconvenes in meeting area and the teacher teaches one more thing.
- The share has one teaching point, but it's not necessarily the same teaching point as the mini-lesson.
- Students are often called upon to share their work as it pertains to the teaching point of the share.

Strings of Management – Writer’s Workshop

- Writers know their role during the mini-lesson/conference.
- Writers move from the mini-lesson to their seats quickly and quietly.
- Writers know and practice the appropriate use of talk in the workshop.
- Writers use their time effectively.
- Writers know that when they have finished a writing piece, they begin another piece-“when you think you’re done, you have only just begun”.
- Writers use writing folders, paper choice, writing notebooks, and other structures of the Writer’s Workshop.