

Essentials in Writing, Level 1

Alternative Instructional Strategies

Thank you for choosing Essentials in Writing for your elementary student. As you begin, or as your student works through the curriculum, you may find that extra help is needed with some lessons/concepts. We are offering additional strategies/suggestions to help your student achieve success with each lesson.

General Accommodation Suggestions

- Be sure to watch Mr. Stephens's video session to begin each lesson. This helpful resource will give extra guidance to easily complete each lesson.
- Read directions to your child. Also, feel free to read the content of each lesson to your child.
- Don't worry about letter formation or size of letters.
- Spelling may be inventive as your child learns. If your child is concerned with spelling correctly, use the Spelling Dictionary in the Assessment/Resource Booklet to look up or record words as they come up in your child's writing.
- There are Supplemental Word Lists in the back of the Assessment/Resource Booklet.
- Extra graphic organizers and checklists will also be found in the Assessment/Resource Booklet.
- Let your child dictate to you. The important part is getting his/her thoughts written down.
- If your child needs more space for writing than is provided in the Workbook, try writing in a notebook, on lined paper, chart paper, or lined sentence strips.
- If writing on paper is difficult, try a whiteboard.
- If your child struggles with the number of items on the page, reduce the number. You can finish in another sitting if more practice is needed.
- If the student clearly understands the material and is ready to move on, reduce the number of items on the page.
- **Rewatch Mr. Stephens's videos for review at any time.**

Beginning Writer's Notebook

Start a Writer's Notebook to help organize handy tools that your child will use throughout writing. (If your student would work better using a chart, use chart paper!)

- Add the Spelling Dictionary from the Assessment/Resource Booklet.
- Make Word Banks for animal names, family, nouns, adjectives, etc. Many Word Banks can be found in the back of the printed 2020 Assessment/Resource Booklet!

- Make an Expert List. An Expert List is a list of topics that your child “knows a lot about!” This handy reference will help provide topics for later writing. Add to it as needed.
- If a lesson needs extra practice, write it in the Writer’s Notebook.
- Leave space for extra writing! You never know when a story that must be written down will pop up!
- Keep your Writer’s Notebook to use with the next level of EIW!

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UNIT ONE: GRAMMAR	
Lesson 1 Introduction to Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The goal of this lesson is to obtain a beginning writing sample. It will be saved to compare with the final writing activity. ● Encourage any effort, no matter how small. ● Use a different prompt (topic idea) if necessary. ● Be sure to use the same one for the final lesson.
Writing Sentences	
Lesson 2 Letters, Words, and Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2.1 Make a chart with letters. Be flexible on the amount on these charts. Use markers or crayons for fun! ● 2.2 Make a chart with words. Any words! Can be dictated if needed. ● 2.3 Make a chart of sentences. Any sentences! Can also be dictated if needed.
Lesson 3 Spacing Words in Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practice writing your own sentences with spaces in your Writer’s Notebook. ● Use larger paper, or a whiteboard, if a larger space is helpful. ● Sentences could be dictated to the instructor and then copied by the student.
Lesson 4 Capitalizing the Beginning of a Sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practice writing your own sentences, beginning with capital letters, in your Writer’s Notebook. ● Use a highlighter to mark the capital letters.
Lesson 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make a list of sentence subjects in your Writer’s Notebook.

Sentence Subjects	
Lesson 6 Sentence Predicates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make a list of sentence predicates (things you can do) in your Writer's Notebook.
Lesson 7 Complete Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practice writing complete sentences in your Writer's Notebook. Touch each capital letter and ending punctuation.
Lesson 8 Incomplete Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practice writing complete sentences in your Writer's Notebook. Touch each capital letter and ending punctuation.
Lesson 9 Declarative Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Start a chart of <u>Declarative Sentences</u> in your Writer's Notebook. ● Add a new sentence every day of Lesson 9.
Lesson 10 Interrogative Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10.1 Copy the list of Common Question words on page 45 into your Writer's Notebook. There are more Common Question words in the back of the Level 1, 2021 Assessment/Resource Booklet. ● 10.2 Practice making question marks in your Writer's Notebook if these are difficult for you! ● 10.3 Start a chart of <u>Interrogative Sentences (questions)</u> in your Writer's Notebook. Touch each capital letter and question mark. ● 10.4 Write a question about your day to your parent/instructor on a sticky note. Remember, a question is an asking sentence! ● Write more than one!
Lesson 11 Exclamatory Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 11.1 Start a chart of <u>Exclamatory Sentences</u> in your Writer's Notebook. ● Add a new sentence every day of Lesson 11. ● If it's easier, write on sentence strips, chart paper, sticky notes, or a whiteboard.
Lesson 12 Imperative Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Start a chart of <u>Imperative Sentences</u> in your Writer's Notebook. ● Add a new sentence every day of Lesson 12. ● Touch each exclamation mark!
Lesson 13 Practice Writing Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practice writing sentences in your Writer's Notebook. ● Highlight or use a marker to show your capital letters and punctuation. Don't forget spacing!

PARTS OF SPEECH	
Identifying Parts of Speech	
Lesson 14 Identifying Common Nouns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 14.1 Make a list of common nouns in your Writer's Notebook. ● 14.4 Write a sentence using some of the common nouns from your list. Underline the common nouns. ● For added practice, read a picture book with the student. As you read, have them point out the nouns.
Lesson 15 Categorizing Common Nouns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make a chart similar to the one on page 69 in your Writer's Notebook. Put words from your common noun list from Lesson 14 into categories in this chart. ● Use chart paper and markers if it is easier.
Lesson 16 Proper Nouns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 16.1 Make a list of names in your Writer's Notebook. ● 16.2 Make a list of specific places in your Writer's Notebook. ● 16.5 Brainstorm sentences using a name and a place from your list. Write your favorite in your Writer's Notebook. Underline the proper nouns.
Lesson 17 Singular and Plural Nouns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 17.1 Make a list of singular nouns in your Writer's Notebook. ● 17.2 Rewrite your list of singular nouns and make them plural by adding -s or -es. ● 17.3 Brainstorm sentences using singular nouns from your list. Write your favorite in your Writer's Notebook. Underline the singular nouns. ● 17.4 Write a sentence using a plural noun from your list. Underline the plural noun.
Lesson 18 Adjectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 18.1 Make a list of adjectives in your Writer's Notebook. ● 18.2-5 Brainstorm sentences using adjectives from your list. Write your favorites in your Writer's Notebook. Highlight the adjectives. Add to your list as you think of more adjectives.
Lesson 19 Action Verbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review the Predicate List (things you can do) made in the Writer's Notebook for Lesson 6. Practice writing sentences using action verbs from this list. Underline or highlight the action verbs.

Lesson 20 Nouns, Adjectives, and Action Verbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make word cards for nouns, adjectives, and action verbs from the lists in your Writer’s Notebook. Mix and sort. Make sentences using one of each. Write your favorite or silliest sentence in your Writer’s Notebook.
TOOLS FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION	
Apply Parts of Speech	
Lesson 21 Adjectives in Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose an item from your room, your refrigerator, your yard, or your _____. Make a list of words to describe that item. Write sentences using those words.
UNIT TWO: COMPOSITION	
Lesson 22 Lists of Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make your own grocery shopping list. Make a list of fruits. Make a list of vegetables. Make a list of your favorite snacks.
Paragraphs	
Lesson 23 Parts of a Paragraph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use green, purple, and blue crayons (color very lightly!) or colored pencils to highlight the parts of the paragraph on pages 110 and 111. Touch the indent.
Lesson 24 Indent and Opening Sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After completing the paragraph on page 113, use green, purple, and blue crayons or colored pencils to LIGHTLY highlight the parts of the paragraph. Touch the indent.
Lesson 25 Body Sentences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After completing the paragraph on page 115, use green, purple, and blue crayons or colored pencils to LIGHTLY highlight the parts of the paragraph. Touch the indent.
Lesson 26 Closing Sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After completing the paragraph on page 117, use green, purple, and blue crayons or colored pencils to LIGHTLY highlight the parts of the paragraph. Touch the indent. • Have the student create a colorful poster that shows the parts of a paragraph. They may hang the poster in their learning space for future reference

Lesson 27 Staying on Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 27.1 Choose a topic from your Expert List in your Writer’s Notebook. Write a sentence that DOES NOT belong in a paragraph about your topic. ● 27.2 Brainstorm (make a list of) things you know about goldfish. Choose one idea from your list to help you with a body sentence for your paragraph on page 119. ● 27.3 Make a list of things you know about bugs. Add it to your Writer’s Notebook. Choose three ideas to help you with body sentences for your paragraph on page 120. ● Rewatch the video at any point during the lessons on paragraphs. Mr. Stephens explains it very well. <p>*Remember that you can change the topic if the one provided does not work for you.</p>
Lesson 28 Staying on Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 28.1 Make a list of what you like about summer. ● 28.2 After completing the paragraph on page 122, use a purple crayon or colored pencil to LIGHTLY highlight the TWO body sentences. Touch the indent. ● 28.3 Brainstorm a list of what you know about soccer. Use these ideas to help you with body sentences for the paragraph on page 123.
Lesson 29 Paragraph Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make a list of what you know about your favorite animal. (Remember, a list does not have to have sentences.) ● This will help you get ideas for your paragraph.
Lesson 30 Paragraph Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brainstorm a list of things you like to do. Add it to your Writer’s Notebook. Choose one of these things to be your topic for Lesson 30.
Lesson 31 Paragraph Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make a list of people in your family in your Writer’s Notebook. Choose one of these family members for your Lesson 31 paragraph.
Personal Letter	
Lesson 32 Parts of a Personal Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Find these words and circle them on page 133: Date, Greeting, Body, Closing, and Signature. How many times did you find each one? ● Rewatch the video at any point during the lessons on Personal Letter. Mr. Stephens explains it very well.

Lesson 33 Writing the Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write the date every day on a whiteboard, chalkboard, notecard, etc. ● Practice writing the date correctly at the top of other assignments.
Lesson 34 Writing a Personal Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For extra practice, copy your personal letter from page 137 onto lined paper. Mail it to your friend!
Personal Narrative	
Lesson 35 Chronological Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Copy the list of transition words from page 142 into your Writer’s Notebook. Add more if you think of them. ● Practice telling “First, Next, Last” stories for fun! You can use easy story starters such as “brushing my teeth” or “getting dressed.” ● Rewatch the video at any point during the lessons on Personal Narrative. Mr. Stephens explains it very well.
Lesson 36 Parts of a Personal Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make a copy of your completed graphic organizer on page 144. This will make it easier to write it in paragraph form on the next page. (No flipping pages back and forth.) You can also write the paragraph on a separate sheet of paper. (Do not write the event numbers in your paragraph.)
Lesson 37 Organize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brainstorm words about birthday parties. Write these words in your Writer’s Notebook. This will help you think of events (body sentences) for your personal narrative.
Lesson 38 Write	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make a copy of your completed graphic organizer on page 146. This will make it easier to write it in paragraph form on the next page. (No flipping pages back and forth.) You can also write the paragraph on a separate sheet of paper. ● *Extra Practice - Make a list of “things you can do or have done” in your Writer’s Notebook. This will help you get topic ideas for your personal narratives.
Imaginative Narrative	
Lesson 39 Chronological Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write the series of events from page 150 on individual notecards. Mix them up and put them back in order.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rewatch the video at any point during the lessons on Imaginative Narrative. Mr. Stephens explains it very well.
Lesson 40 Parts of an Imaginative Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remember to use transition words (not “Opening, Event 1, etc.”) in your paragraph. ● Just for fun, change the last word in each event of Evan’s imaginative narrative on page 153. Read it out loud!
Lesson 41 Organize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brainstorm a list of “things you could do if you had wings”. Use some of these ideas in your graphic organizer on page 155. ● Don’t forget to add transition words to your graphic organizer.
Lesson 42 Write	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write your imaginative narrative on lined paper or a whiteboard if needed. ● Touch each capital letter and punctuation mark.
FINAL LESSON - Comparing Compositions	