



Institute for Excellence in Writing

Listen. Speak. Read. Write. Think!

Virtual Teaching Writing: Structure and Style Description

Grade applicability	Grades K-12
Prerequisites	None
Hours	Three 4-1/2 hour days

Description

A complete syllabus for sequential development of writing skills, this course presents nine different composition models and twenty-eight stylistic techniques. Participants will have hands-on writing practice using a checklist-based approach, which prepares them to assist students in gradually expanding and continuously reinforcing a repertoire of specific skills. The Structure and Style® system directly supports writing across the curriculum.

Objectives

- to provide a concrete way to help teachers develop specific writing skills in students
- to provide educators with hands-on writing practice
- to explain how our nine organizational structures function as a pathway of written and oral communication
- to model how to facilitate more sophisticated vocabulary acquisition
- to model the use of a variety of sentence structures that teachers can encourage in their students' writing
- to model how educators can increase students' ability to use questions to identify central ideas and facts in source texts or draw information from their own brains, thereby developing critical thinking skills

Overview of Structure and Style Method

practical and philosophical aspects

applicability to students with varying levels of ability and experience

Unit 1: Note Making and Outlines

key word outlines

retelling from an outline

integrating four stages of public speaking

Unit 2: Writing from Notes

reconstructing from an outline

training for verbal activities

listening skills and nonverbal communication

creating attention-getting titles

Unit 3: Retelling Narrative Stories

elements of a story

purpose of a paragraph

straight summary

elaboration

variation

sequel

cross-genre

expansion

original stories

Unit 4: Summarizing a Reference

paragraph structure

topic-clincher rule

informative/expository paragraphs

report and summary writing

Unit 5: Writing from Pictures

event descriptions

asking questions to develop content

Unit 6: Summarizing Multiple References

choosing topics

research skills

citations

synthesizing information for cohesive reports

Unit 7: Inventive Writing

taking notes from the brain

responding to prompts: narrative and expository writing

basic essay structure

introductions and conclusions

Unit 8: Formal Essay Models

basic and extended formal essays

research papers

stages of essay development

types of essays: descriptive, argumentative, motivational, and persuasive

Unit 9: Formal Critique

book reports

reviews

critique model for fiction

critique model for non-fiction

critique vocabulary

Writing about Literature

Response to Literature stages

literary analysis essays

Stylistic Techniques

specific grammatical constructions and word usages which add variety and artistry to students' compositions

sentence openers for sentence variety

literary devices: similes, metaphors, alliteration, quotations, questions, dramatic open-close, three short staccato sentences

grammar usage rules

creating a language-rich classroom environment