

2016-2017 Fifth Grade Overview: Writing

Month(s)	Unit	Key Concepts "Students will know..."	Key Skills "Students will be able to..."
September/ October	Narrative Craft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The writing process involves trying out various strategies, styles, and crafts, and revising as they go. ● Revisions are done to determine what is and is not working to convey the author's goal. ● The most important parts include the greatest amount of detail to show the character's feelings about the event. ● Writers make deliberate craft choices to convey the larger meaning of the piece. ● The character's response to the small event brings out the true meaning of the story. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collect small moments that capture the tensions in the writer's life, show turning points, and life-lessons. ● Consider structure to enhance the meaning they are trying to convey. ● Revise using strategies to bring out a deeper meaning in their story. ● Incorporate rich detail, action, emotion, and dialogue to bring out their stories. ● Use conventions such as punctuation to impact the pace and flow of their stories.
November	Feature Articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The purpose of informational writing is to teach a readers about a topic ● Information writers plan how to organize and think about structure that will best teach about their topic ● Feature articles begin with a lead paragraph, with more detailed information in subsequent paragraphs ● information writers include vocabulary specific to their topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organize and plan their writing using the structure of a feature article ● Choose information to include from various types of sources (facts, quotes, anecdotes) ● Focus on one aspect of their topic and include information angled toward that idea ● Include various text features with purpose (heading, subheading, diagrams, graphs)
December	Research Based Argument Essays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Essayists argue to persuade the reader to agree. ● Thesis statements have various structures and drive the entirety essay. ● Topic sentences should be key points in support of the thesis and determine what supporting evidence will be included in a paragraph. ● Essayists include various sources within their supporting evidence. ● Essayists use the introduction and conclusion to show why their idea/thesis is significant or important. ● Essayists properly site outside sources. ● Essayists angle their supporting evidence to best illustrate their opinion or thesis. ● Essayists organize and structure their essay in a way that best illustrates their thesis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Present legitimate research in support of their claim in order to persuade/argue their position ● Develop a working thesis statement and plan paragraphs with topic sentences that support the thesis ● Gather various outside sources to include in the supporting details ● Craft effective introductions and conclusions. ● Include angled anecdotes and scenes from literature to illustrate their thesis ● Organize their writing in a structure that logically supports their thesis
January/ February	Literary and Comparative Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Essayists present a point of view and argue to persuade the reader to agree. ● Thesis statements have various structures and drive the entirety essay. ● Topic sentences should be key points in support of the thesis and determine what supporting evidence will be included in a paragraph. ● Essayists include various sources within their supporting evidence. ● Essayists use the introduction and conclusion to show why their idea/thesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Present legitimate research in support of their claim in order to persuade or argue their position. ● Develop a working thesis statement and plan paragraphs with topic sentences that support the thesis. ● Gather various outside sources to include in the supporting details. ● Craft effective introductions and conclusions. ● Include angled anecdotes and scenes from literature to illustrate their thesis.

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March/ April	Writing to a Prompt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How to plan an essay response ● How to structure an essay response to include all parts of a question ● How to mark the details in the text to match the paragraphs of the answer ● How to use the best evidence to support their answers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Read and understand test questions ● Answer extended response questions in a thesis statement and plan paragraphs with topic sentences that support the thesis ● Students will use all sources included in the question to support their answers ● Students will flip the question and use it as part of their answer
April/ May	Writing Fantasy Stories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elements of structure associated with the genre. ● Elaboration in the right places is essential to creating an engaging and compelling narrative. ● Good narrative writers use a balance of narrative techniques throughout scenes (dialogue, setting, description, internal thought, small actions, etc.) ● Various craft moves for developing tension, showing the characters internal and external reactions to events, including sensory details, figurative language, showing the character’s personality through thoughts, actions, and dialogue. ● Leads and conclusions follow various structures that students can notice in mentor texts and emulate. ● Ideas for fantasy are based in the real world and then re-imagined in a fantasy world (being creative while still believable). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Describe characters by how they look, what they do, say, and think, and what others say about them ● Take the point of view of one character by seeing the situation through his or her eyes ● Show rather than tell how characters feel ● Develop a plot that includes tension and one or more scenes ● Develop an interesting story with believable characters and fantastic but logical plot (fantasy) ● Expose the problem of the story ● Describe the setting with appropriate detail ● Begin with a compelling lead to capture reader’s attention ● Write a believable and satisfying ending to the story ● Include specific vocabulary that fits the character, setting, time period, etc. ● Balance summary and elaboration to show importance of events within connected scenes.
June	Independent Research Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Author’s make specific choices when writing in order to best convey their message to the reader. These choices often relate to the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● audience ● genre ● information ● word choice ● structure ● Choosing an appropriate genre to communicate a particular set of information can help readers best understand that set of information. ● Managing the writing process independently is an important component to living a successful Independent Writing Life ● Writers write as they learn about a topic ● Structure and development are keys to communicate effectively about a topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will narrow writing ideas by considering a specific audience for their writing ● Students will consider word choice, information, structures, and formats that best convey their message in their chosen genre ● Students can collect mentor texts that model excellent writing in the genre of their choice ● Students analyze structure as it relates to their chosen genre and the effect strong structure has on the reader ● Students analyze key elements of their genre in order to ready themselves for their writing project ● Students analyze anchor text by re reading past student work. ● Students plan their independent writing

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Transitions are used to give structure and shape to- and show the connections among- ideas● Writers focus their research as they become more expert- and more interested in- a topic● Text structure helps to convey information in a way that highlights some information while downplaying other information	<p>calendar by filling out a personal time-line of expected work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Students plan, draft, revise or edit their writing piece by following their personal calendar● Students pull together all their best reading and writing skills in order to develop a best final independent project<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Use transitions to show the relationships among ideas○ Draft a focused report on a sub-topic○ Develop a stance on that topic○ Use text structure to highlight information that shows the author's stance on the topic○ Use proper citations to give credit to the author's sources
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