

The LMS in the Writing Process

Dr. Susan E. Page
and Carl A. Harvey II

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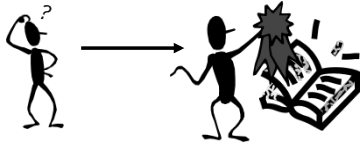
Agenda

- Overview of the Process
- Supporting Students as Writers Throughout the Process
- Navigating the Rapids (Competing Philosophies)
 - About the Process
 - About the Student's Role
 - About Grading
- Staying Afloat



Writing Process

- Stages that a Write Uses to Move From Blank to Brilliant



Writing Process

- Collect ideas and plan based on topic, purpose, intended audience, focus

Prewrite

- Tools Writer Uses:
 - Lists, planners, quick writes, sit and think, conversations, sticky notes, photos, realia

Writing Process

- Put ideas onto paper in a sustained effort as the piece is developed

Draft

- Writer May...
 - Pause, reread, return to prewrite to gather information or write non-stop

Writing Process

- Reread the piece, analyze what need to be done to make ideas and information clearer and more meaningful to the reader.

Revise

- Writer May...
 - Consider the overall message / gist
 - Move information around, substitution words and phrases, delete, add ideas.

Writing Process

- Make changes to make the piece easier to read or to remove things that will distract or bother the reader.



- Changes Typically Involve
 - Spelling, punctuation, capitalization, agreement
 - Structure of sentences and paragraphs

Writing Process

- Put the writing in a more finished form and deliver to the audience.



- Writers May
 - Read the piece to a small group of students
 - Recopy or use a word processor to make the piece look more attractive
 - Send the piece off to a contest or publisher who will move the piece to a larger audience if deemed worthy

Possible Roles of LMS During Prewrite

- Find and Develop Ideas
 - Point students to similar texts to the ones they are trying to create
 - Model how to skim resources to develop questions or ideas
- Share tools that might help them organize ideas
 - Mind Maps
 - Inspiration/Kidspiration
- Provide Instruction
 - Research Process
 - General and keyword search

Drafting Support

- LMS may not see all the process; encourage students to share prewrite work
 - They may have skipped it or did not spend enough time with the topic / purpose
 - Look for the need of more information
- Help to discover **Focus**
 - "What is the one thing that you want your readers to know, understand, believe or do as a result of your writing?"
 - What is it that your characters learn, accomplish or discover by the end of your story?
- Direct to anchor papers and published works, authors that can serve as mentors

Revision Support

- Make teachers and writers aware that revision usually has two phases:
 - 1st Pass to decide if the piece accomplishes its overall purpose and has a central message
 - 2nd Pass to polish the writing in terms of specific traits: word choice, ideas, organization
- Share and use revision checklists
- Provide mentor texts and anchor papers that can teach by example:
 - Good beginnings and endings
 - Transitions among ideas

Editing Support

- Show resources to help with editing
 - Electronic dictionary
 - Commonly misspelled words
- Teach about **active** vs. **passive** verbs
- Share literature that supports editing
 - Punctuation Takes a Vacation by Robin Pulver
 - Brian Cleary's series



Publishing Support

- Show options for choosing format that enhances message and interest
 - Memo
 - Brochure
 - Web page
- Keep informed with options for reaching a larger audience
 - Blog
 - Wiki
- Create a home for student writing in your collection

Navigating the Rapids



- Be Aware of Competing Philosophies
 - About the Process
 - About the Student's Role
 - About Grading
- Stay Afloat
 - Create the Conditions Where Kids Can
 - Model Where the Water is Deep
 - Use Special Projects and "Action Research" to Do It Well Once.



Final Thoughts

- Bibliography
- Stay in Touch: Contact Information
 - Dr. Susan E. Page
 - Education Consultant
 - Yorktown, Indiana
 - pageconsulting@mac.com
 - Carl A. Harvey II
 - Library Media Specialist
 - North Elementary School, Noblesville, Indiana
 - carl_harvey@mail.nobl.k12.in.us

Bibliography

- The Library Media Specialist and the Writing Process (Marge Cox, Carl Harvey, Susan Page) Linworth Publishers, 2007. The best book we have ever written together. :-)
 - Instructional Support:
www.readwritethink.org Great resource for mini-lessons and content support
 - Staff Development
Annenberg Media:
<http://www.learner.org/cgi-bin/swish-resource.cgi?site=query=writing&v=0&y=0> Wonderful resource for in-house staff development that includes videos and print materials...Free!
 - Genre studies
Ray, Katie Wood. *Study Driven: A Framework for Planning Units of Study in the Writing Workshop*. Heinemann, 2006. Wonderful resource for planning and learning how to make these interactive with students
- Samples of Student Writing**
- Student writing papers for K-6
<http://thewritingsite.org/default.asp>
Student papers and scoring practice
 - Student writing samples for middle school and high school:
<http://go.hrw.com/eolang/modbank/>
 - Student writing samples for elementary students in grades 1-6.
<http://www.thewritesource.com/models.htm>