

Possible Teaching Points for Writing Mini-Lessons

These suggestions are intended as a starting point.

Further topics for mini-lessons will emerge as students' needs evolve over the year.

PROCESS	CONTENT	PRODUCT/QUALITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing routines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – why we have them – how they are done – generating mini-lesson topics • Stages of the writing process • Writer's Notebook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – what it is – how to begin – why we use it – how to use it – where to find ideas – teacher monitoring • Developing ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – using mentor texts – from movies – from television – by conferencing for ideas with peers • Drafting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – why we do drafts – draft formats – first, second, and final draft – expectations • Revising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – what is revision? – why we revise – how to revise independently and with a partner – tracking revisions – preparing for a revision conference • Editing skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – using checklists – how to peer edit – how to give constructive criticism <p style="text-align: center;">Add your own:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language and word study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – using a dictionary – using a thesaurus – spelling rules that work – run-on sentences – paragraphing – speech marks – punctuation • Mentor texts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – what they are – why we use them – how to use them – where we find them • Magazines and newspapers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – formats – types – illustrations – different columns – letters – editors – advertisements – reporting – captions, headlines • Text forms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – letters – scripts, lyrics – poems – reports – essays • Cross-curricular writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – historical diaries – plays – science reports – math journals – math problems – games descriptions • Family stories • Photographs <p style="text-align: center;">Add your own:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – who is the audience? – publishing software – formats – materials – frequency • Presenting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – who is the audience? – knowing and engaging the audience – range of presentation methods • Editing for publication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – peer and teacher editing – using checklists – final edits • Rubrics for assessing writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – development with students – levels of attainment – exemplars • Illustrations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – techniques – style – famous illustrators – page design – mentor texts • Writing on Demand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – why we practise it – planning for writing – use in everyday life <p style="text-align: center;">Add your own:</p>