

DELIVERING DYNAMIC MINI-LESSONS IN WRITING

GRADES 6-12



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Identify the signs of an effective lesson

Plan the four essential steps

View a lesson model

Honor the gradual release of responsibility

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Identify the signs of an effective lesson



Mini-lessons are *mini*.

The teacher is in charge of this 15 minutes.

This instructional time should be fun and/or funny.

Writing mini-lessons focus on *how* to do something as a writer.

Target instruction on high-utility and transferable writing skills.

Plan the four essential steps



1 Introduction: You (re)introduce the skill.

2 Instruction: You demonstrate the skill.

3 Interaction: They experience the skill.

4 Closure: You crystallize the skill.

View a lesson model: Developing Paragraphs

1 Introduction: You (re)introduce the skill.

2 Instruction: You demonstrate the skill.

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Honor the gradual release of responsibility

I do. You watch.



We do. (*You do; I help.*)



You do. I watch.



Discussion: Turn & Talk

How does your current writing instruction compare to this 4-step process?

What did you hear that was validating?

What step(s) do you need to incorporate more explicitly and intentionally in your lesson delivery?

What facets or elements do you need to omit from your lesson delivery?

Delivering Dynamic Mini-Lessons in Writing (Grades 6-12)

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- execute 4 steps
- mentor text
- anchor papers
- concrete triggers
- maintain control
- paragraphs

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