

READERS WRITE

ABOUT TEXTS



SKILL PURPOSE

Most state and national tests assess **mastery** of comprehension skills through written responses. Students not only have to know the answer but also articulate the **inference** in writing with **textual evidence**.

Therefore, whole-class comprehension instruction must go beyond teaching thinking. It must also include explicit instruction on **W.A.R.— writing-about-reading** skills.



READERS WRITE ABOUT TEXTS & TOPICS

PERSUASIVE/ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING CCSS W 1 | INDIANA 3.1

Write opinion pieces/arguments to support claims (about) topics or texts...

GRADES 3-4

SUMMARIZE LIT	ROUNDS 3, 4
SUMMARIZE INFO	ROUND 3
TRACK IDEAS	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3
TEXT ORGANIZATION	ROUNDS 2, 3, 4
AUTHOR CHOICES	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3 (Grade 3 only) ROUNDS 1, 2, 3, 4 (Grade 4 only)
COMPARE TEXTS	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3
SYNTHESIZE IDEAS	ROUNDS 2, 3

GRADES 5-6

SUMMARIZE LIT	ROUNDS 1, 3, 4
SUMMARIZE INFO	ROUNDS 2, 3
TRACK IDEAS	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3
TEXT ORGANIZATION	ROUNDS 2, 3, 4 (Grade 5 only) ROUNDS 1, 2, 3 (Grade 6 only)
AUTHOR CHOICES	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3, 4
COMPARE TEXTS	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3
SYNTHESIZE IDEAS	ROUNDS 2, 3

GRADES 7-12

SUMMARIZE LIT	ROUNDS 2, 3, 4
SUMMARIZE INFO	ROUNDS 2, 3
TEXT ORGANIZATION	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3
AUTHOR CHOICES	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3
COMPARE TEXTS	ROUNDS 1, 2, 3
SYNTHESIZE IDEAS	ROUNDS 2, 3

INFORMATIVE WRITING CCSS W 2 | INDIANA 3.2

Write informative/explanatory texts...

GRADES 3-4

SUMMARIZE INFO	ROUNDS 1, 2
SYNTHESIZE IDEAS	ROUND 1

GRADES 5-6

SUMMARIZE INFO	ROUND 1
SYNTHESIZE IDEAS	ROUND 1

GRADES 7-12

SUMMARIZE INFO	ROUND 1
SYNTHESIZE IDEAS	ROUND 1

NARRATIVE WRITING CCSS W 3 | INDIANA 3.3

Write narratives...

GRADES 3-4

SUMMARIZE LIT	ROUNDS 1, 2
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GRADES 5-6

SUMMARIZE LIT	ROUND 2
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GRADES 7-12

SUMMARIZE LIT	ROUND 1
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INFORMATIVE SUMMARIES

Teach readers how to demonstrate comprehension by collecting and restating literal text details.

For the specific writing lesson, see the "Write" icon at the end of the round.

Write SYNTHESIZE IDEAS
ROUND 1 (GRADES 3-12)

For the specific writing lesson, see the "Write" icon at the end of the round.

Write SUMMARIZE INFORMATION
ROUNDS 1-2 (Grades 3-4)
ROUND 1 (Grades 5-12)

Teach and model the read-write skill using text details collected during mini-lessons earlier in the round.

NARRATIVE SUMMARIES

Teach readers to succinctly summarize a story including only the most important plot details.

For the specific writing lesson, see the "Write" icon at the end of the round.

Write SUMMARIZE LITERATURE
ROUNDS 1-2 (Grades 3-4)
ROUND 1 (Grades 5-12)

Teach and model the read-write skill using text details collected during mini-lessons earlier in the round.

NARRATIVE RESPONSES

Move beyond personal narratives; teach students how to write stories based on text.

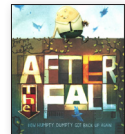
Generate a Narrative Response



Teach readers how to generate a sequel.

- **Teach** how to incorporate the SAME characters.
- **Teach** how to describe a SIMILAR problem & solution.
- **Teach** how to depict the SAME lesson learned— just sooner.
- **Teach** how to include a transitional introduction.

MENTOR TEXT



After the Fall, Dan Santat

Teach readers how to rewrite the point of view of a story.

- **Teach** how to incorporate the SAME characters.
- **Teach** how to describe the SAME problem & solution.
- **Teach** how to reveal a DIFFERENT character's perspective.



Fractured Fairytales

Teach readers how to write fiction based on facts.

- **Teach** what facts to gather from the text (e.g., people, setting, events).
- **Teach** how to generate a plot based on nonfiction.

Historical fiction
Scientific fiction

Teach readers how to insert a missing scene.

- **Teach** how to write a new scene about the SAME characters, setting, and plot.
- **Teach** how to reference known details and play into unknown details.
- **Teach** how to transition in and out of the scene to fit within the original text.

Deleted scenes from movies

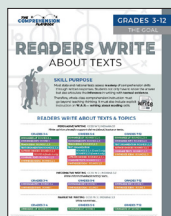
CONDUCT A DAILY WRITER'S WORKSHOP

Reading Instruction

(READER'S WORKSHOP)

Teach & model a NEW **write-about-reading skill** at the end of each round (i.e., approximately **once a week**).

APPLY all known writing skills when modeling how to write **about texts**.



Writing Instruction

(WRITER'S WORKSHOP)

Teach & model NEW **writing skills** within a **daily** writer's workshop. Students write **about topics & texts** during independent writing time.

ARGUMENTATIVE SKILLS

- Study an issue & align with the strongest position.
- Develop logical reasons.
- Conclude the argument.

INFORMATIVE SKILLS

- Introduce narrow topic.
- List important points or big ideas.
- Elaborate with specifics and support.
- Group related details.
- Conclude with the *So what?*

NARRATIVE SKILLS

- Create a basic plot.
- Hook & satisfy the reader.
- Sequence time & events.