

Productive Writing Skills & Test

A Short but Intensive Program

Gumi, Summer 2024

by Seanan



Introduction



Welcome!

Welcome to our intensive 3-hour writing instruction workshop for high school teachers.



Program Overview

We'll cover a brief overview of the program, including discussion and practical strategies for teaching writing.



Practical Strategies

The main focus will be on sharing practical, effective strategies for teaching writing in the high school classroom.

This PPT and all supporting Materials can be found online at:
www.teflsites.com

Part 1: Discussing Writing in High School

1

Ask/Answer Questions

Engage in a group discussion, asking and answering questions about teaching writing in the high school classroom.

2

Write Feedback on a Poster

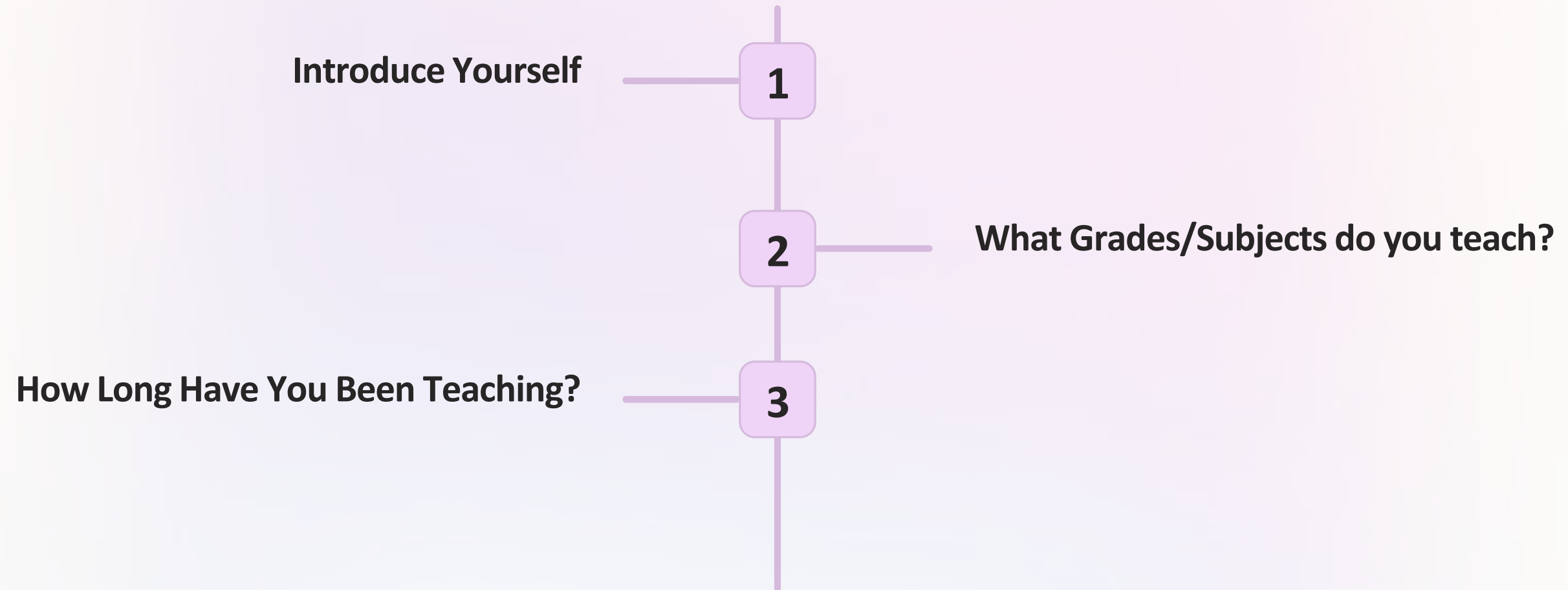
Work together to create a poster summarizing key insights and strategies from the discussion.

3

Present Your Poster

Share your poster with the class, highlighting the most important points about high school writing instruction.

Introductions



Take a moment to briefly introduce yourself to the group. Share what grade(s) and subject(s) you teach, as well as how long you've been teaching.

Content and Methods

1

Writing in the Classroom

Do you cover writing in your high school classes? How do you structure your writing lessons?

2

Writing Skills Focused On

What specific writing skills do you emphasize with your students (e.g., narratives, descriptive writing, essays)?

3

Writing Formats and Genres

Are there any particular writing formats or genres that you focus on in your instruction?

Challenges and Effective Strategies

4

Challenges

What are some challenges you face when teaching English writing to high school students?

5

Effective Strategies

Can you share any strategies or techniques that have worked well in improving your students' writing skills?

Assessment and Feedback

6

Evaluate Criteria

What criteria do you use to evaluate writing proficiency?

7

Provide Feedback

How do you assess and provide feedback on students' writing assignments?

Student Engagement and Motivation

8

Engagement and Motivation

How do you keep students engaged and motivated during writing lessons?

9

Specific Activities

Are there any specific activities or projects that have sparked enthusiasm for writing among your students?

Technology in Writing Instruction

10

Digital Tools

Do you use any technology or digital tools to enhance English writing instruction?

11

Balancing Traditional and Technological

How do you balance traditional writing methods with technology-based approaches?



Part 2: Writing Formats and Tasks

Okay, let's move on to some Writing Formats and Tasks that you could teach your students (if you have the time and energy in your curriculum) 😬

What do you know about these formats?

- Structural Writing
- Skills and Processes
- Definition, Process, Descriptive, Opinion, Summary, Narrative, Reflective Writing

Note: What criteria would you use to evaluate students who do each of these activities?
(I will offer some rubrics, but I'd like your ideas too! 😊)

Structural Writing

Writing courses, particularly at beginning level can be organized around grammar and sentence patterns. For example, we could look at the Present Perfect Simple (not an easy one to start with).

Form / Use / Guided Practice / Writing Practice



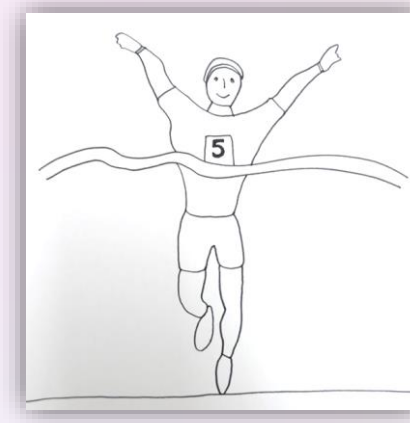
Seanan has eaten a worm.



Seanan has lived in Korea
for 8 years.



Seanan has cut his finger.



Seanan has won a
marathon.



Seanan has not seen
Inside Out 2 yet.

Can you/students draw your/their own pictures/make sentences, and then have your/their partner make a Present Perfect sentence?

Maybe you could turn this into a 5 truths and 1 lie game?

Skills and Processes

1. Coming up with Ideas (Pre-Writing)
2. Putting your Ideas into Order
3. The First Draft
4. Revising
5. Proofreading
6. The Final Draft

Jung. Lee

Funny

Jung. Lee

Idea

Example

Funny

Played jokes, told interesting stories

My favorite teacher was Jung, Lee. In the classroom, he was funny. He told lots of jokes and interesting stories. He was an excellent teacher. He taught us to love English.

He helped us to present a school play every year.

My Favorite Teacher

My favorite teacher was Jung, Lee. In the classroom, he was always funny. He told

My Favorite Teacher

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My Favorite Teacher

My favorite teacher was Jung Lee. In the classroom, he was always funny. He told lots of jokes and interesting stories. He was an excellent teacher. He taught us to love English and helped us present a school play every year. Mr. Lee cared a lot for his students too. After school, he had time to talk to students about their problems. I miss him very much.

Extra: I know these are a little simple for high school, but you could use [Plant / Hamburger Templates \(see Online\)](#).

Evaluation Rubric

Definition Writing

In definition writing, the writer's main purpose is to tell you what something is.

A definition writing

- Explains what something is
- Gives facts, details, and examples to make the definition clear to the reader
- Start with a dictionary definition, then give your ideas



In the dictionary, the Sun is a huge ball of fire in space that gives us light and heat. It's very big and far away, but I can see it during the day. The Sun helps plants grow and gives us energy to play outside. Without the Sun, there would be no daytime or warmth on Earth!

Process Writing

In a process paragraph, you explain how to do something step by step. First, you list the steps in order, using words like "first," "next," and "finally" to show when each step happens. At the end, you have a specific result.

A process analysis paragraph

- Explains a sequence or process
- Presents facts and details in chronological order
- Uses time words or phrases
- Ends with a specified result

For a bit of fun, let's make a Balloon Turtle Bracelet. 😊



First, take a balloon and blow it up about halfway with the inflator tool and tie the end. Now, pinch the tied part with your fingers and push it in and up, twisting it to make a 'tulip twist'. Twist around the tied part to form the turtle's head. Next, twist the balloon below the head to make a small body (about 3 fingers). Then, make four legs by twisting sections evenly (about 2 fingers each). Twist the legs together a few times. Now, carefully push the turtle body through the legs. Next, hold the tail part of the balloon, snip the end to let most (not all) of the air out, then tie a knot below the snip. To make the bracelet band, take the tail part and wrap it around the neck of the turtle a few times. Your cute turtle bracelet is ready to design and wear!

Descriptive Writing

A descriptive writing describes how something or someone looks or feels.

A descriptive writing

- Describes
- Gives impressions, not definitions
- “shows” the reader
- Creates a sensory* image in the reader’s mind

* related to the five senses: hearing, taste, touch, sight, smell



Sight: Hershey's Kisses are small and shiny, wrapped in silver foil with a little paper tag.

Touch: The foil crinkles when you touch it.

Sound: When you unwrap it, you hear a soft crinkle as the foil opens up.

Smell: They smell sweet and chocolatey.

Taste: When you take a bite, they melt in your mouth with a delicious chocolate flavor.

Opinion Writing

An opinion writing expresses the writer's opinion.

An opinion writing:

- Gives the writers opinions about a topic
- Interprets or explains facts
- Is often about a controversial issue
- Makes the reader think
- Considers both sides of the argument

1

Introduction

- Hook
- State your opinion
- List 3 main reasons

2

Body

- Reasons 1/2/3
- Support each reason with an example, fact or detail
- Use *transition* words between reasons

3

Conclusion

- Restate your opinion in different words
- Snap

Have you ever thought about getting a dog as a pet? I think dogs make great pets because they are **loyal**, **playful** and **helpful**.

The **first** reason dogs make great pets is that they are **loyal**. Some dogs travel hundreds of miles to be with their humans! **Another** reason dogs make great pets is that they are **playful**. Dogs can run, camp, and hike with their owners. **Finally**, dogs make great pets because they can be **helpful**. They can guard, hunt, guide and protect.

These are the reasons why I believe dogs make great pets. If you are considering getting a pet, choose a dog, you'll be glad you did!

Extra: You could use the **OREO Template**. Also, it is useful to have students use **Transitional Words and Phrases**, and **Expressions for Discussion and Debate**; they really help ([see Online](#)).

Evaluation Rubric

Summary Writing

A summary tells the most important parts of a text in your own words.

1

Clear

Understandable to those who haven't read the original.

2

Topic Sentence

Starts with the author/source and main idea.

3

Main Points

Includes all main points in the same order, without minor details.

4

Brief

About one-quarter the length of the original. Use **Transitional Words and Phrases** and **Reporting Verbs** ([See Online](#)).

5

Original Words

Written in your own words, no copying or quotes (technical terms can remain). Use a **Thesaurus**.

6

Objective

Only the ideas from the original, no personal opinions or changes in meaning.

7

Conclusion

Ends with the author's conclusion

How I have my students write a Summary:

- 1. **Read Carefully:** Read the text several times to understand it fully. Take notes and look up unfamiliar words.
- 2. **Identify Main Points:** Find and list the most important points in the order they appear.
- 3. **Write from Notes:** Use your notes to write the summary, not the original text.
- 4. **Check for Accuracy:** Compare your summary with the original to ensure different wording and all main points are included.
- 5. **Revise and Edit:** Fix grammar, punctuation, clarity, capitalization, or spelling errors.

Summary Template

Original Story	Your Notes
Summary	

Summary Example [\(see Online\)](#).

Evaluation Rubric

Narrative Writing

Narrative writing can be fun to write because you tell a story or relate an event. Narratives have a beginning, a middle, and an end. Any time you go to a movie or read a fiction book, you are looking at a narrative. Narrative writing often describes events from the writer's life.

A narrative paragraph

- Tells a story
- Gives background information in the opening sentence(s)
- Has a beginning, a middle, and an end
- Entertains and informs

Example Narrative Writing

My Gumi Nightmare

I will never forget my Gumi nightmare when I got hopelessly lost on the way to the Education Center. Traveling alone, with a dead battery on my phone, excitement turned to unease as I wandered deeper into unfamiliar streets that felt increasingly deserted and ominous. Just as despair threatened to overwhelm me, a kind elderly woman emerged from the shadows. Despite our language barrier, she guided me through the labyrinthine alleys until we reached the welcoming gates of the center. Grateful for her help, I learned a powerful lesson about the kindness of strangers and the importance of fully charging my phone before setting off on an adventure.

What can you do with these writing prompts?

<https://bogglesworldesl.com/creativewriting.htm>

What about this Writing Bubble?

<https://teflsites.com/GUMI%20Bubble%20Diagram.pdf>

Or this Writing Dice?

<https://teflsites.com/GUMI%20The%20Dice%20Game.pdf>

Evaluation Rubric

Reflective Writing

Reflective writing is about reflective thinking, which involves:

Looking Back:

- Revisit an event, idea, or object.

Analyzing:

- Examine deeply from different angles.
- Explain using relevant models or theories.

Personal Meaning:

- Consider its impact on your learning or professional growth.
- Reflective writing is more personal than typical academic writing and requires deeper reflection than everyday thinking.

A possible structure for reflective writing

1 Description

- What happened?
- What is being examined?

2 Interpretation

What is most important / interesting / useful / relevant about the object, event or idea?

- How can it be explained e.g. with theory?
- How is it similar to and different from others?

3 Outcome

- What have I learned from this?
- What does this mean for my future?

Here is some language to help ([see Online](#)).

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Thank you!

Seanan

Oh, can you fill out an Exit Ticket? 😊

