

TEACHING WRITING SKILLS: A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH FOR IMPROVING WRITING SKILLS AT THE INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

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Annotation: *This article provides the instructor with a detailed foundation for enhancing writing abilities of intermediate learners. This resource emphasizes the importance of integrating various writing techniques, including brainstorming, drafting, revising, and editing, to foster a deeper understanding of the writing process. By incorporating diverse instructional strategies such as collaborative writing, peer feedback, and genre-based approaches, it aims to engage students and build their confidence in expressing ideas effectively.*

Key words: *writing skills, brainstorming, pre-writing, drafting, editing, narrative writing, descriptive writing, argumentative writing.*

Annotatsiya: *Ushbu maqola o'qituvchiga bilimi o'rta darajadagi o'quvchilarning yozish qobiliyatini oshirish uchun batafsil asosni taqdim etadi. Ushbu resurs yozish jarayonini chuqurroq tushunishga yordam berish uchun turli xil yozish usullarini, jumladan, fikrlar topish, loyihalash, qayta ko'rib chiqish va tahrirlashning muhimligini ta'kidlaydi. Birgalikda yozish, tengdoshlarning fikr-mulohazalari va janrga asoslangan yondashuvlar kabi turli xil ta'lim strategiyalarini o'z ichiga olgan holda, o'quvchilarni jalb qilish va g'oyalarni samarali ifoda etishda ishonchini oshirishga qaratilgan.*

Kalit so'zlar: *yo'zish ko'nikmalari, firlar to'plash, oldindan yo'zish, loyihalash, tahrirlash, hikoya yo'zish, tavsifiy yo'zish, argumentativ yo'zish.*

While humanity has existed for hundreds of thousands of years, writing is a relatively recent development; therefore, it can be considered as a quite recent evolution. Nowadays, in the field of education, students' knowledge is often evaluated by their writing proficiency. Almost all individuals grow up speaking their first language (sometimes it can be their second or third) which is obtained naturally by being exposed to it all the time. In contrast, writing has to be taught and requires conscious learning, hence making it hard for students to engage in this activity. In addition to being complex to pursue, writing is used for various grounds and is presented in many forms which has their own patterns.

There are steps for writing that need to be done to finish the writing process successfully:

1. Planning: Professional writers plan their writing by making detailed notes or planning in their heads. They focus on three main problems: the purpose of their writing, the readers they are writing for, and the content configuration, which includes a sequenced layout of ideas, arguments, or facts.

2. Drafting: This first attempt of a text can be altered later. Several drafts can be produced along the way.

3. Editing: This is where the writer reflects and revises what has been written. Skilled writers look at general meaning rather than grammatical accuracy or individual words, as these can be adjusted later. Editing can also be assisted by other readers who offer suggestions.

4. Final version: After editing their drafts, writers prepare the final version. The final work might be transformed from the initial plan as writers may re-plan, re-draft, or re-edit during the process.

Even people who are fluent in their native language need time to come up with ideas when writing, that is why student should be given the opportunity to generate ideas by giving them time to contemplate. There are strategies to help students start writing tasks with flexibility and creativity without strictly following a linear approach:

1. Brainstorming - one of the effective ways where students should create as many ideas as possible as long as they are related to the given topic. After that they can cross out the ones that are not needed or put them into logical order.

2. For and against - another way of generating ideas where, for instance, the teacher divides the board into two columns, a "for and an against" column and members of each group come up and write their opinions on those columns. It does not have to be done in groups all the time, they can work individually or with a partner to create their own 'for' and 'against' lists of ideas, which is then presented to the class and discussed altogether.

3. Listing - unlike brainstorming, listing is quite an individual activity where students create a long list of ideas about a topic. This is helpful for those who struggle in grammatical accuracy.

4. Clustering- it involves writing a central idea on a page and quickly noting related ideas around it, forming a visual pattern like spokes on a wheel.

5. Freewriting - students write continuously for a set time without stopping (3-8 minutes), often starting with a teacher-provided sentence. This generates raw material for further writing.

There are various writing techniques that can be employed to enhance the reader's experience of reading. To enhance the appeal of a narrative writing for readers, the following tips must be considered:

1. Incorporating a varied range of adjectives and adverbs, opting for more authentic choices such as "imaginative" and "wonderful" instead of basic terms like "nice" or "good".

2. Utilizing diverse verbs such as astonished, shouted, or murmured to minimize dependence on "said."

3. Employing similitudes and comparisons to describe people or things more vividly.

4. Using present or past participles to combine two simple sentences into a more complex one.

Teaching writing skills to intermediate learners demands an organized and multifaceted approach. Educators can demystify writing and make it more approachable by guiding students through the processes of planning, drafting, revising, and editing. Techniques such as brainstorming, clustering, and freewriting encourage creativity and help learners gather ideas more effectively. Ultimately, qualifying students with a variety of writing strategies not only enhances their proficiency but also builds their confidence in expressing their thoughts. By emphasizing the importance of writing with vivid language, educators can provide students with the requisite tools to excel in academic and professional contexts. Writing is a skill that evolves with practice, and by implementing these comprehensive methods, teachers can inspire students to see it as a rewarding and fulfilling process.

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