

# WRITING RESOURCE PACKET

## A Quick Guide



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_

Fifth Grade Writing

## **MY INTERESTS, LIKES, HOBBIES**

On the lines below, write your favorite hobbies, things you like to do, favorite animals, any interests you have, etc. These will be used throughout the year in your writing.

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## **SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES & CAREER TOPICS**

Below are lists of topics you may or may not learn about this year in our class. Most of these topics will be learned through your own personal research and writing. For some writing assignments, you'll choose what you want to learn and write about.

### **SCIENCE TOPICS**

#### **Matter and Its Interactions**

(What is it? How does it change? How does it look?)

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#### **Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions**

(Gravity: What is it? How does it work?)

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#### **Energy**

(How does the sun benefit animals? How is it transferred? What are different types?)

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#### **From Molecules to Organisms: Structures & Processes**

(What do plants use to grow? Air? Water?)

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#### **Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy & Dynamics**

(Movement of Matter, Interdependent Relationships, and Matter and Energy Transfer)

#### **Earth's Place in the Universe**

(Distance of Earth from stars and sun, length of days, directions of shadows, seasonal appearance of stars)

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#### **Earth's Systems**

(Geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and/or atmosphere, and distribution of water on Earth)

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#### **Earth and Human Activity**

(How is science used to protect the Earth's resources and environments?)

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#### **Engineering Design**

(Design problems, constraints for time, supplies, etc., find multiple solutions for problems, carry out fair tests of designs)

## **SOCIAL STUDIES TOPICS**

### **Government**

(What is it? How does the government protect the people? Branches of government, voting, rights of others, becoming involved in leadership and public office)

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### **Geography**

(Continents and Oceans, Tools used to identify and organize info about people and places, Human characteristics of places and regions, Physical characteristics and processes that affect places and regions)

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### **Economics**

(What is the economy? Human and capital resources, entrepreneurship, trade, goods and services, cost and advertisement, supply and demand)

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### **History**

(Differences of social, political, cultural and economic groups in PA, the US, and the world, Important historical documents and artifacts)

## **CAREER TOPICS**

### **Career Awareness and Preparation**

(Traditional and Nontraditional careers, making career choices, career plans, impact of interests and abilities on career choices)

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### **Career Acquisition**

(Speaking and listening techniques, Job search resources, Business Letters, Career Portfolios)

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### **Career Retention and Advancement**

(Personal attitudes and work habits, Working cooperatively with others, Budgeting concepts, Personal, school, and home schedules, Impact of interests and abilities on lifelong learning)

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### **Entrepreneurship**

(What is it? How do you create and run a business? What skills do you need to be an effective entrepreneur? What are goods and services?)

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# **WRITING RESOURCES**

On the following pages are writing resources you can use to help improve your writing. There is a variety of quick hints, vocabulary, and other information that will prove useful to you as a writer.

**Writing Traits**

**Writing Process**

**Types of Writing**

**Leads**

**Transitions**

**Figurative Language**

# TYPES OF WRITING

Type of Writing	Definition
Summary	A summary is a type of writing used after reading a text. A summary is a short to the point writing about the key information read in the book, magazine, or article. The writer also provides explanations of the key information, so the reader can clearly understand what happened in the text. <b>Structure:</b> Start sentence, 3 transitions with topic sentences that include the key information, explanations of those 3 pieces of information, and transition with conclusion sentence.
Narrative	Narrative writing tells a story of some type. The story can be fictional or non-fictional. However, there needs to be a storyline with characters going through events and solving problems. A story may or may not include dialogue and there are many different ways to present stories such as a novel, comic, digital story, children's book, graphic novel, etc. <b>Structure:</b> Includes story elements like characters (protagonist, antagonist, major, minor), setting (where and when), conflict (internal and external), climax or turning point, and resolution.
Informational	Informational writing teaches the reader new information about a topic. A writer can use headings, captions, pictures, charts, graphs, sidebars, photos, drawings, paintings, etc. to show the information about a topic. The writing can also be in just paragraph form. Informational writing has <b>facts</b> about a topic, and it may have some opinions about the information provided. However, the entire writing <b>NEEDS</b> to teach the reader something new about the topic being written. Examples of informational writing include magazines, brochures, billboards, business cards, blogs, encyclopedias, informational picture books. <b>Structure:</b> Varies depending on how it is presented. Can have paragraphs with a lead paragraph, body paragraphs using the basic structure of a paragraph, and a conclusion paragraph. Writer can use a variety of graphic features to present the work.

# TYPES OF WRITING

Continued

Type of Writing	Definition
Opinion	Opinion writing is your thoughts and feelings on a particular topic. It uses facts to back up your ideas, but also has many of your own ideas about the topic. Some examples of opinion writing include editorials, political speeches, political cartoons, advertisements, petitions, Letter to the Editor, advice columns, political news programs. <b>Structure:</b> Like all types of writing, the structure can vary depending on what you are trying to say and how you want it to look. Opinion writing has <b>ideas, feelings, and thoughts</b> , it may also have <b>some facts</b> , it may be in paragraph form with the proper structure of a paragraph (leads, transitions, topic sentences, details, explanations, concluding sentence, etc.)
TDA	TDA stands for Text Dependent Analysis. This type of writing is used to answer a prompt about a text. It is more rigid than other types of writing with less flexibility to how it is presented. <b>Structure:</b> Writing can often vary in how it is presented, but most of the time, TDA writing is five paragraphs. It starts with a lead paragraph (STArt Sentence, Items in a Series Sentence, and Wrap up), then three body paragraphs (Transition/Topic sentence displaying first detail, explanation sentence of that first detail, and then an opinion or wrap up sentence), finally a conclusion paragraph (Transition with a conclusion sentence, repeat the items in a series, and then an opinion or wrap up sentence).
Proper Paragraph Structure	Throughout this chart, I have mentioned to use the proper paragraph structure. See the chart on the next page.

# WRITING LEADS

On the following pages are examples of leads in writing. These can be used with almost any type of writing. They make your writing more engaging and interesting. Try to use different types throughout the course of the year. Good Luck!



# USING TRANSITIONS

On the following pages are examples of transitions for any type of writing. They are organized using headings depending on how you want to use them in writing. This is a great tool for organization.

# USING FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

On the following pages are examples of figurative language. Figurative language can be used to make your writing more interesting. Using figurative language helps share your VOICE in writing.

**Literal Language:** Using the correct words to say what you mean.

**Example:** It is very hot outside.

The tree is moving from the wind.

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**Figurative Language:** Using different words to express a simple statement or idea.

**Example:** It is as hot as an oven outside.

The wind grabbed ahold of the tree and shook it.

# **6+1 TRAITS OF WRITING & THE WRITING PROCESS**

On the following pages is information about the writing traits and writing process.

## 6+1 Writing Traits

<b>Writing Traits</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Ideas</b>	Ideas are the center of the writing. They are the "meat and potatoes" or important details of what you want your reader to learn about or be entertained with. Using specific ideas will help your reader better understand and visualize what you are writing about.
<b>Voice</b>	Builds a connection between the reader and the writer. Voice is where your personality and uniqueness shines within the writing. Voice provides a sense of your writing style using figurative language, specific words, and dialect within the writing.
<b>Organization</b>	Organization is how your writing is put together. Is there a nice flow from sentence to sentence or paragraph to paragraph? Organization is the sequence and order used in your writing. Using transitions will help to build your writing so it makes sense to the reader.
<b>Word Choice</b>	The development of rich, colorful precise language that moves and enlightens the reader. Using exciting words to describe your ideas, feelings, or visualizations. Stay away from the boring words like nice, and start using stronger appealing words such as extravagant. Use tools within the classroom to help improve in this area.
<b>Sentence Fluency</b>	Sentence fluency is the flow of writing and how sentences are used effectively. Using a variety of sentences like simple, compound, and complex will add to a more fluent type of writing. The well-constructed sentences will keep your reader engaged in the writing.
<b>Conventions</b>	Conventions are the mechanical correctness of the piece, the grammar, spelling, punctuation, paragraphing and capitalization of the piece.
<b>Presentation</b>	Presentation is how you decide to share your writing with the audience. It can be a simple paragraph, commercial, magazine, comic, novel, poem, speech, power point, etc.

# The Writing Process

Writing Process	Definition
Prewriting	Prewriting involves getting your ideas down on paper. It may be through a list of items, a word web, word collage, a free write, or other methods of getting your ideas from your head to the paper.
Drafting	Drafting is the process of getting your ideas and brainstorming to some type of structure of writing. The structure may be paragraph form, poetry, or many other types of writing. Usually, a writer will draft their ideas many times until they get the final product.
Revising	When a writer revises their work they change the order of the writing, add in text, take out text, or any other type of change that <b><u>DOESN'T</u></b> involve spelling, grammar, capitalization, or punctuation errors.
Editing	Editing is the process of fixing, adjusting, or changing your spelling, grammar (verb form/language), capitalization, and punctuation errors.
Publishing	Publishing is the final draft that is presented to the reader. Like all writing, it may come in a variety of forms. Examples include a speech, song, novel, graphic novel, comic, magazine, digital story, poem, etc.

# **GRAMMAR & LANGUAGE RESOURCES**

On the following pages are grammar resources you can use to help improve your writing. There is a variety of quick hints, vocabulary, and other information that will prove useful to you as a writer.

## **Parts of Speech**

(Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, etc.)

## **Types of Sentences**

## **Conjunctions and Prepositions**

## **Comma Usage**

## **Word Meanings**

(Synonym, Antonym, Homophone, etc.)

## **Dialects**

## Using Commas

Type of Comma Usage	Example Sentences
Items in a Series	Some of my favorite things to do are to <b>read, draw, play outside, and write stories.</b>
Commas in Compound Sentences	I decided to use the bathroom, <b>and then I used the bathroom.</b>
Appositives	I got an A in writing class, <b>my favorite subject in school.</b> Joe, <b>my neighbor,</b> just moved to our town last year.
Tags	<b>Yes,</b> thank you for coming to the party. The school is only five miles away, <b>right?</b>
Places	I live in East Smithfield, <b>Pennsylvania.</b>
Introductory Elements	<b>In conclusion,</b> I believe wearing school uniforms will be beneficial. <b>After going to the store,</b> I went home to take a nap.
Direct Addresses	<b>Laura,</b> will you help me with this math problem? Is it time to go home, <b>Dad?</b> Can I go, <b>Mom,</b> to the store with you?
Dialogue (Quotation Marks)	<b>Larry explained,</b> "I believe my dog ate my homework!" "I never get to play on my tablet," <b>Sarah complained.</b>

## Word Meanings

Synonyms, Antonyms, Homophones, Homonyms, Homographs

Language Type	Definitions and Examples
Synonym	Words that have similar meanings.  <b>Examples:</b> big, large, huge, giant
Antonym	Words that have opposite meanings.  <b>Examples:</b> big and small, stop and go, slow and fast, nice and mean
Homophone	Words that sound the same but have different spellings and meanings.  <b>Examples:</b> waist and waste, right and write, bear and bare, two and too, pale and pail
Homonym	Words that have the same spelling and are pronounced the same, but have different meanings.  <b>Examples:</b> <b>Play:</b> to participate in some activity <b>Play:</b> a performance with actors on the stage
Homograph	Words that have the same spellings but different pronunciations and meanings.  <b>Examples:</b> <b>Bass:</b> a fish <b>Bass:</b> a string instrument with a low sound  <b>Present:</b> a gift given to someone <b>Present:</b> to share information with others



## Dialects in Writing

### What is dialect?

A dialect is the language used by the people of a specific area, class, district, or any other group of people. The term dialect involves the spelling, sounds, grammar and pronunciation used by a particular group of people and it distinguishes them from other people around them.

### Examples of Dialect from Literature

#### Huckleberry Fin - By Mark Twain

**Jim:** "We's safe, Huck, we's safe! Jump up and crack yo' heels. Dat's de good ole Cairo at las', I jis knows it."

**Huck:** "I'll take the canoe and go see, Jim. It mightn't be, you know."

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#### To Kill a Mockingbird - By Harper Lee

**Walter:** "Reckon I have. Almost died first year I come to school and et them pecans - folks say he pizened 'em and put 'em over on the school side of the fence."

**Translation:** I suppose I have. The first year I came to school and ate those pecans, I almost died. Some people accuse him [Mr. Radley] of poisoning them, and keeping them over on the school side of the fence.

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# **TYPES OF WRITING**

On the following pages are the types of writing we will dive into this year. Within these types, there are many different genres. Use the information on the next two pages to help gain a better understanding of the structure of each type of writing.