

Grade Level: 10th Grade

Subject: Grammar/English Language Arts

Duration: One Week

Focus Topic: Expository Writing

Day 1: Understanding Expository Writing

Lesson Title: Introduction to Expository Writing

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the purpose and characteristics of expository writing.
- Identify different types of expository essays.
- Define key vocabulary related to expository writing (e.g., thesis statement, evidence, clarity).

Materials Needed:

- "The Writing Revolution" by Judith C. Hochman
- Exemplar expository essays (printed or online)
- Whiteboard or large paper for brainstorming

Lesson Introduction:

- Start with a discussion: "What do you think expository writing is? Where do you encounter it in your daily life?" Encourage the student to share examples from newspapers, textbooks, or online articles.

Instructional Procedures:

- **Exploration:** Have the student read two different styles of expository essays: one from a magazine and one from an academic journal.
- **Explanation:** Teach key characteristics of expository writing (informational, no opinion, structured organization).
- **Application:** Brainstorm potential essay topics based on personal interests or current events (e.g., climate change, technology).
- **Reflection:** Ask the student to write a paragraph summarizing what they've learned and their opinions on the essays read.

Assessment and Evaluation:

- Observe the student's involvement in discussions and self-reflections.
- Provide feedback on their summary paragraph.

Integration with Other Subjects:

- Connect to Social Studies by discussing current events relevant to their essay topics.

Differentiation and Personalization:

- For enrichment, encourage the student to research and present on a specific type of expository writing (e.g., compare/contrast essay).
- For support, provide a guided template for brainstorming essay topics.

Real-Life Applications and Field Activities:

- Encourage them to visit a library or a bookstore to find various expository texts.

Resources for Further Learning:

- Online resources like Purdue OWL on Expository Essays.
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Day 2: Crafting a Thesis Statement

Lesson Title: The Heart of an Expository Essay: Thesis Statements

Learning Objectives:

- Craft a clear and concise thesis statement.
- Understand the role of the thesis in expository writing.

Materials Needed:

- Examples of strong and weak thesis statements
- Whiteboard or paper for notes

Lesson Introduction:

- Begin with a game: “Thesis Statement Guessing Game.” Read statements aloud and have the student guess which are strong or weak, discussing why.

Instructional Procedures:

- **Exploration:** Review examples of thesis statements. Have the student identify the topic and opinion (if any) in each.
- **Explanation:** Discuss characteristics of a strong thesis statement: specific, clear, and arguable.
- **Application:** Have the student draft at least three thesis statements for their chosen topics from Day 1.
- **Reflection:** Pair share their thesis statements and seek feedback.

Assessment and Evaluation:

- Review drafted thesis statements for clarity and effectiveness.

Integration with Other Subjects:

- Use a Science topic, such as “The Effects of Pollution on Marine Life,” allowing for cross-disciplinary discussions.

Differentiation and Personalization:

- Assist students who struggle with crafting thesis statements by providing sentence starters.
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Real-Life Applications and Field Activities:

- Research news articles that summarize research findings or events, analyzing their thesis statements.

Resources for Further Learning:

- Online tutorial videos on creating effective thesis statements.
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Day 3: Structuring the Expository Essay

Lesson Title: Organizing for Clarity

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the structure of an expository essay (introduction, body, conclusion).
- Organize ideas logically using outlines.

Materials Needed:

- Graphic organizers
- Note cards or sticky notes for brainstorming

Lesson Introduction:

- Play a quick game of "Organize the Essay": Give the student various sentences and ask them to assemble a coherent essay structure.

Instructional Procedures:

- **Exploration:** Walk through various essay outlines and graphic organizers.
- **Explanation:** Teach the structure (introduction with thesis, supporting paragraphs, conclusion), emphasizing transitions.
- **Application:** Have the student create an outline for their essay using a graphic organizer or note cards.
- **Reflection:** Discuss the importance of essay flow and how connecting ideas can aid understanding.

Assessment and Evaluation:

- Review the student's outline to ensure logical organization and flow.

Integration with Other Subjects:

- Incorporate a Math concept by having the student structure their essay on a problem-solving method, showing step-by-step solutions.

Differentiation and Personalization:

- Provide advanced students with more complex organizational strategies (e.g., cause/effect) while offering additional support for those who find outlining challenging.
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Real-Life Applications and Field Activities:

- Encouragement to create a presentation of their outline to siblings or parents.

Resources for Further Learning:

- Online resources with templates for outlining essays.
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Day 4: Writing the First Draft

Lesson Title: Putting It All Together: Drafting

Learning Objectives:

- Write the first draft of an expository essay using their outline.
- Implement feedback from peers effectively.

Materials Needed:

- Laptop or writing materials
- Editing checklist

Lesson Introduction:

- Discuss the importance of drafts and the writing process, "Why is making a draft important?"

Instructional Procedures:

- **Exploration:** Review the concept of drafting as a process.
- **Explanation:** Explain how to create a first draft—emphasize that it doesn't need to be perfect.
- **Application:** Allow the student to write their first draft based on their outline.
- **Reflection:** After writing, have the student read their draft aloud to identify areas for improvement.

Assessment and Evaluation:

- Provide feedback on the drafting process, focusing on content and structure.

Integration with Other Subjects:

- Discuss how drafting is relevant in subjects like Science when writing lab reports.

Differentiation and Personalization:

- Encourage visual learners to work with mind maps as they draft their essays.

Real-Life Applications and Field Activities:

- Encourage the student to explain their draft to a family member.

Resources for Further Learning:

- Writing practice websites like Grammarly for grammar checks.
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Day 5: Revising and Editing

Lesson Title: Polishing Your Work

Learning Objectives:

- Revise and edit the draft for clarity, coherence, and grammar.
- Understand the difference between revising and editing.

Materials Needed:

- Edited copies from Day 4
- Online grammar tools or style guides

Lesson Introduction:

- Discuss a famous author and their revision process: "Did you know that many bestselling authors write multiple drafts?"

Instructional Procedures:

- **Exploration:** Show examples of a revised essay and discuss changes.
- **Explanation:** Explain revision focuses on content, organization, and clarity whereas editing focuses on grammar, punctuation, and style.
- **Application:** Using an editing checklist, have the student revise and edit their first draft.
- **Reflection:** Have the student review their final draft and reflect on what they learned throughout the week.

Assessment and Evaluation:

- Assess the revised essay for improvement from the previous drafts.

Integration with Other Subjects:

- Introduce Digital Literacy by having students use Word Processing tools for editing.

Differentiation and Personalization:

- Pair students for peer editing if siblings are available, providing opportunities for collaboration.

Real-Life Applications and Field Activities:

- Submit their final draft to a family member for feedback or potential publication on a family blog.

Resources for Further Learning:

- Recommended books on the writing process (e.g., "Bird by Bird" by Anne Lamott).

This one-week lesson plan aims to equip 10th-grade students with expository writing skills while encouraging both personal growth and creative expression. The homeschooling environment offers a

unique opportunity for tailored instruction, ensuring every student can progress at their own pace while making learning relevant and applicable to their interests and future endeavors.