Collins Education Associates

The Collins Writing Program

A Writing Across the Curriculum Program with Over 35 Years of **Proven Results**

The Collins Writing Exchange
March 14, 2024 Issue #74

Spring Forward with Bright Ideas!

Humans in many areas of the world manipulate the environment by turning the clock back by an hour in November and ahead by an hour in March. Daylight Saving Time is a very simple example of technology (clocks) manipulating nature (time). Of course, this is just an illusion and does not actually save any daylight - it just makes people feel like the day is longer because the clock is advanced to take advantage of more daylight. When we at CEA were talking about this month's theme - Daylight Saving Time - we began thinking about all the ways humans use science and/or technology and if it is always right or preferable. This Exchange will look at the ethics, outcomes, and wisdom of these advancements, both in the world and in the classroom, as both teachers and students face new challenges with these questions daily.

Topic of the Month:
Interacting with Science and Technology
in the Classroom and in the World

Writing and discussion foster and support critical thinking about bioethical and techno-ethical issues and questions. Students need to be able to identify the ethical dilemmas or problems surrounding the use of science or technology to change or transform nature. Once they are identified, they need to be explored. What are the intended outcomes? What are the unintended consequences? What are the benefits? Do they outweigh the burdens? Are humans always right to use the new knowledge? After these questions are discussed, written about, argued about, and written about some more, they should be

Go-To Type Threes:
Man Versus Nature

This month's assignments encourage deep thinking about current issues centering around how humans interact, both positively and negatively, with the natural world.

researched and opinions or positions formed. Evidence can then be collected in writing on note cards or a device. The final product may be a debate, a group presentation, a speech, or a more formal argument or opinion writing.

During this process, students will be involved in many of the Five Types of Writing:

- **Types One and Two** are perfect in the beginning stages of discussion and writing: for exploring thoughts and ideas, daring to be wrong, generating questions for follow-up, and sharing newly acquired content area knowledge and understanding.

- **Types Three, Four, and Five** provide structure for culminating activities with FCAs, where writers are able to clarify their thinking in an organized and logical manner.

There are countless bioethical and techno-ethical questions to be explored and these may span multiple content areas. The ready-to-use assignments below are particularly well-suited to science and technology courses but can also be incorporated into or modified to fit other curriculum areas. These assignments are also perfect for upcoming Earth Day celebrations.

K-2 Assignment

Gr. 3-5 Assignment

Gr. 6-12 Assignment

We would love to see how your students respond to these prompts!
*Send us copies of your favorites for a chance to **win $25 in free products!***

Send all submissions to
cmcdonough@collinsed.com.

Connect with Us and Get Free Stuff!

We Want to Hear from You!

*Each month we will highlight a different day, event, or topic. Our May issue will celebrate the multi-faceted FCA! We will explore how **FCAs** can help you in every corner of your world - not just writing! FCAs are a valuable tool for making your teaching more effective and for helping students achieve and improve in your subject area.*
If you have a great "out of the box" way to use Focus Correction Areas, email cmcdonough@collinsed.com
for a chance to be published in our newsletter and
receive up to $50 in free products!

Making Technology a Tool, Not a Challenge
The Art of Writing in the AI Era

As digital tools, from laptops and cell phones to social media to Chat GPT, become more and more a part of the human experience, many of us in the education world find ourselves wondering how to navigate these rapid changes and prepare students for the future without sacrificing our own instructional integrity and the human

experience of learning. In particular, teachers worry about the effects of AI on student writing, when there are so many ways out there for students to rig the process.

Meet Dan Jones, middle school teacher, visionary, and forerunner in integrating technology in the classroom. His expertise in AI (artificial intelligence) utilization in education is showcased in *The AI Classroom*, and he continues to lead the discourse on AI's role in education through his podcast **"The AI Cafe"** on the Bam Radio Network.

Want to learn more about AI and the classroom?
Join us for a FREE Afternoon Zoom!

HOT TOPIC - FREE WEBINAR!
Meet, Greet, and Explore AI:
Shaping the Future of Writing Education

March 19, 2024
4:30 PM EDT

Join Dan for an online "meet and greet" as he discusses strategies for leveraging AI as an effective classroom tool while upholding academic integrity and fostering a deeper understanding of the writing process.

This is your chance to ask questions, share perspectives, and gain insights into how AI can revolutionize writing education.

REGISTER NOW!

See Dan in action below, as recently featured on News 5 Cleveland.

To *Type* or *Not to Type*?
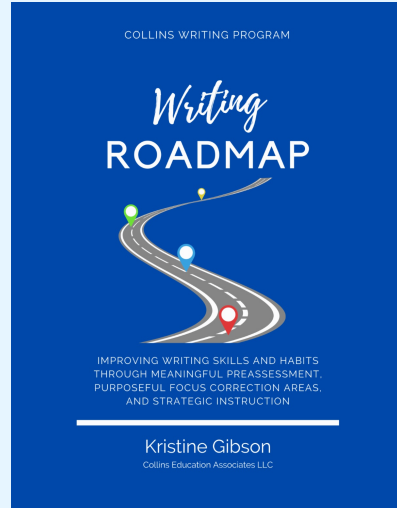That Is the Question...

See what the research says about writing versus typing, both in and out of the classroom, and see our answers to come of the most frequently asked questions about this hot topic.

Read this **feature article** by our very own Cheryl York McDonough:

Take Out A Piece of Paper! Or Not?

Exciting Resources That Require No Shelf Space!

Teachers so frequently ask us, "How do I get started with Collins Writing?" or "What skills should I be teaching throughout the year?" As suggested by its title, *Writing Roadmap* provides teachers with a guide, "a roadmap," to selecting and teaching FCAs that align specifically with assessed student needs. The tools in this resource, in conjunction with the companion video tutorial, take the guess-work out of FCA-selection and put both teachers and students on a path to writing success.

COLLINS WRITING PROGRAM

Writing ROADMAP

IMPROVING WRITING SKILLS AND HABITS THROUGH MEANINGFUL PREASSESSMENT, PURPOSEFUL FOCUS CORRECTION AREAS, AND STRATEGIC INSTRUCTION

Kristine Gibson
Collins Education Associates LLC

Writing Roadmap Video Modules

Writing Roadmap Digital Resource Book

Writing Roadmap includes prompts and instructions, diagnostic rubrics and checklists, detailed FCA lists, annotated and scored student writing samples, and more!
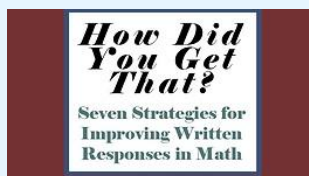
View our entire shop of PDFs **here**.

All items are available for instant download.
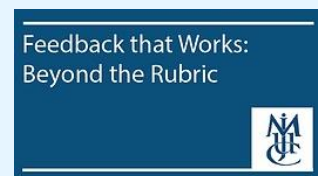Start filling your virtual bookshelf with
new ideas today!

Mark Your Calendar for These Coming Attractions!

WEBINAR

How Did You Get That?
Seven Strategies for Improving Written Responses in Math

Feedback that Works: Beyond the Rubric

FREE WEBINAR!
Meet, Greet, and Explore AI:
Shaping the Future of Writing

Math-Focused
Online Graduate Course
Vermont State University

Full Day Training
New Providence, NJ
April 23rd

Education
March 19, 2024
4:30 PM EDT
REGISTER NOW!

REGISTRATION OPENING
SOON!
June 11-July 25, 2024

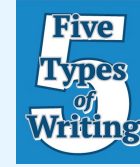**REGISTER NOW!**

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Think-Write-Learn:
Daily Routines that
Build Engagement,
Content Knowledge
and Accountability

Five Types of Writing

Online Graduate/ Undergraduate Course
for CTE Teachers
Vermont State University
Summer 2024

Full Day Training
New Providence, NJ
May 16th
REGISTER NOW!

Five Types of Writing Online Graduate Course Vermont State University
Summer 2024

See our Full Listing of Virtual Sessions and Public Workshops in Your Area

FREE RESOURCES	PUBLIC WORKSHOPS	RESEARCH & RESULTS	SHOP FOR PRODUCTS	ABOUT THE CWP

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