



Collins Education Associates

The Collins Writing Program

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

The Collins Writing Exchange

February 8, 2024 Issue #73

Learning Starts with Leading

February is Presidents' Month - a great time to celebrate outstanding leaders of all kinds and reflect on the characteristics they share. This month's Exchange features ready-to-use assignments to build leadership skills in students, classroom materials that help put students in control of their own learning, and tips on how to harness your important role as an instructional leader.

Fostering Student Thinking, Discussion, and Writing About Leadership

This month's free assignments focus on identifying the qualities of both classroom and community leaders by formulating a job description for an effective leader. Use the assignment for your grade band "as-is" or feel free to make it your own. Consider linking your discussion of leadership to current curriculum, including Presidents' Day or February's celebration of Black History Month.



K-2 Assignment

Gr. 3-5 Assignment

Gr. 6-12 Assignment



We Want to Hear from You!

Connect with Us for Two Chances to Get Free Stuff!

Send copies of your favorite student leadership responses (above) for a chance to win \$25 in free products!

OR

Next month's theme, in honor of Daylight Savings, will be the interaction between humans, technology, science, and nature. If you have a great assignment linked to this theme, share it with us for a chance to be published in our newsletter and receive up to \$50 in free products!

Send all submissions to
cmcdonough@collinsed.com.



Embracing Your Own Classroom Leadership

Use the Collins Writing framework to become an effective learning and writing leader in your classroom and to foster a culture of thinking and writing across the curriculum.

Great Teachers Lead Students in Becoming:

Critical Thinkers Who -

- Frequently complete **Type One** risk-free writing;
- Respond thoughtfully to **high level Type Two** questions;
- Identify strong arguments and provide solid reasoning in all **Five Types of Writing**;
- Use their **writing portfolios*** to revisit past assignments and improve future thinking and writing.

Capable Writers Who -

- Use Type One quickwrites to increase stamina and fluency;
- Choose relevant and significant evidence in Types Two and above;
- Understand how to meet specific assessment criteria (FCAs) in **Types Three and Four Writing**;
- Use their writing portfolios* to apply **revising and editing skills** that will improve current and future writing.

Confident Students Who -

- Dare to take risks as writers and thinkers - especially in Type One Writing;
- Understand that they always have something important to say and that great content is the foundation of great writing;
- Know they are part of a judgment-free community of writers and are not afraid to contribute to classroom discussions of writing and Type Four peer editing;
- Use their writing portfolios* as inspiration for future writing and to reinforce what they have learned and accomplished in their cohort of writers and thinkers.

** Read on to learn more about and purchase our Student Writing Portfolios.*

Exciting Resources Go Beyond Books!

Helping students take the lead in their own learning and writing growth:

Writing Portfolios

Student portfolios are a wonderful way to help put students in charge of their own learning and writing in an age appropriate manner. They provide a simple and effective way to archive evidence of writing and growth. Students are often surprised at, and proud of, how much writing they have produced over time. Portfolios are also powerful to share at parent conferences

Collins Portfolio

To the Student:
This is a working portfolio for your **Type Three** and **Type Four** assignments (see chart below). **Writing with Focus Correction Areas*** (FCAs/Types Three and Four Assignments) will encourage you to focus carefully on a few writing skills at a time. Concentrate your energies on the FCAs and you'll do well on each assignment and, over time, develop into a skilled writer.

Five Types of Writing*

TYPE	PURPOSE	EVALUATION
Type One Capture Ideas	To activate prior knowledge, prewrite, reflect	Writing meets the goals within the time of 10-15 min.
Type Two Connect content	To demonstrate knowledge and literary skills	Usually do better on peer grade based only on the content of the answer
Type Three Read out loud and revise for FCAs	To demonstrate knowledge, thinking, and specific writing skills	Based on mastery of FCAs, usually with a number grade
Type Four Self and Peer Edit for FCAs	To demonstrate knowledge, thinking, and writing skills	All topics publishable, self/edited until error free
Type Five Publishable and error free	To demonstrate knowledge, thinking, and writing skills	All topics publishable, self/edited until error free

When you do a Type Three assignment, you will read your own paper out loud, then revise and edit it. For Type Four assignments, a peer editor will read your writing to you so that you can hear how it sounds. This step is especially hard because many writers read what they thought they wrote, not what they actually wrote. Reading your paper out loud to yourself is the single most important thing you can do to improve your writing!

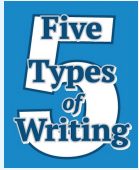
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in the AI Era
SAVE THE DATE!
March 19, 2024, 4:30 PM EST

Full Day Training
Lake Morey, VT
SAVE THE DATE!
March 26, 2024

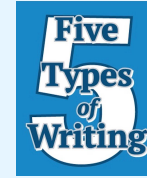
**Compare/Contrast, and the
Argument Essay**
Full Day Training
New Providence, NJ
March 12th
REGISTER NOW!



Five Types of Writing
Full Day Training
Lake Morey, VT
SAVE THE DATE!
March 25, 2024



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



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

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

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WORKSHOPS**

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RESULTS**

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