



Collins Education Associates

# The Collins Writing Program

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

## The Collins Writing Exchange

December 7, 2023 Issue #71

### The Home Stretch of 2023!

*Congratulations on making it to the month of December! Vacation and time with family and friends are just around the corner for you and your students. Let us help you make it to the 2023 finish line! In this issue, discover tools and assignments for all grade levels that you can use this month and into the new year. Be sure to share this newsletter link with friends and colleagues—every teacher appreciates new ideas and ready-to-use assignments!*

### Celebration of the Month\*

#### Holiday Traditions

We celebrate holidays throughout the year in the United States. Due to our melting pot heritage, our celebrations include not just traditionally American holidays, but also an array of holidays from around the world. Many of the holidays we celebrate today can be traced back for generations, while others originated more recently. December is an especially busy month for holidays—and the perfect time to ask our students to share holiday traditions with us using this fun Type Three assignment.



**K-2 Assignment**

**Grade 3-5  
Assignment**

**Grade 6-12  
Assignment**

*\* Each month we will highlight a different day or event.  
In January, we will explore the theme of renewal or new beginnings.  
If you have a great idea for a Collins Writing assignment, please send it to Cheryl McDonough, and you may see it in our newsletter!*

**It's Always Time for Great Type Two Writing!**

Respond  
Correctly

Type 2



For more than three decades, we have advocated for the frequent use of **Type Two** assignments to quiz students on content and help them remember what they learn. With the advent of rigorous state standards and a constant flow of new research on how the brain learns, we have enhanced our Type Two prompts to include six criteria for maximizing the impact of Type Two Writing:

1. Include a **number** in the prompt to make it quantifiable and easy to score.
2. Use **general academic vocabulary** in the prompt.
3. Require students to use **higher-order thinking skills** whenever possible.
4. Design prompts that can be **answered quickly**, 3–8 minutes.
5. Design prompts that can be **graded quickly**, 10–20 seconds.
6. Grade responses for **content only**, not for conventions.

[Click here for a printable version of the six criteria.](#)

## More Type Two Resources

To see samples of Type Two writing by students at various grade levels, visit our [web page](#) and click the drop-down for "Type One and Type Two Writing."

Free Download:  
[Ten Great Type Two Assignments](#)

Tips, prompts, and more can be found on our [Free Resources page](#).

## CEA Collins Writing Type Two Sample

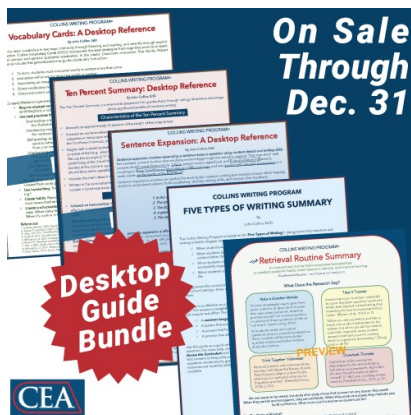
High School

After listening to the class debate on teen social media use, identify at least three arguments presented by each side.

*In this Type Two follow-up to a class debate, a high school student uses bullet-points to outline arguments in favor of and against teens using social media.*

Type 2
<b>Argumentative:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It can help with body images and let people feel comfortable in their own skin.</li><li>• Art, Arts can be visible seen on the media and it can inspire many.</li><li>• Finding future jobs - you can find jobs through posts.</li></ul>
<b>Negative:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cyberbullying it is a big deal and it causes problems in the kids mental health.</li><li>• Screen time can hurt the people's eyes.</li><li>• Not all kids want to find things on media. Addiction can be a problem and sometimes are addicted.</li><li>• Cyberstalking it is a big problem in society today.</li></ul>

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## Holiday Bundle Special!

Our laminated **Desktop Guides** are incredibly popular with teachers. Each one provides you with everything you need to get started with (or get better at using) one of our cornerstone strategies. They can be purchased separately, or, as a special holiday promotion, we are offering them as a discounted bundle. **Purchase now** or keep scrolling to learn more about each.

Just for You: Purchase all 5 Desktop Guides for \$20 (reg. \$5 each)

[Buy Single-Copy  
Bundle](#)

For your Team: Purchase all 5 ten-packs for \$200 (reg. \$250).

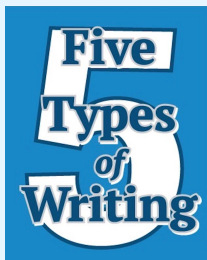
**Buy 10-Pack  
Bundle**

Wondering what's included in each Desktop Guide?  
Watch the video below from CEO Kristine Gibson.



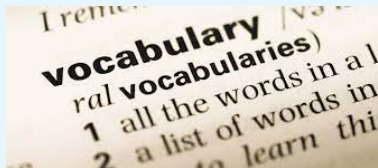
**Our Desktop Guides for Teachers and Schools  
Why choose just one when you can have all five?**

*(Available for purchase now at [collinsed.com](http://collinsed.com))*



### Five Types of Writing

Perfect for teachers who are new to Collins Writing, need a brush up, or just like shiny new things! Provides an overview of our framework, tips and prompts for each type of writing, and a list of go-to FCAs for Type Three and Four writing.



### Vocabulary Cards

Perfect for teachers in any content area who want to harness the power of vocabulary year-round. Great for building both content and general academic vocabulary. Includes step-by-step instructions, reproducible student templates, and a handy student guide.



### Ten Percent Summary

Perfect for any teacher looking for a solution (and some sanity!) after reading too many poorly-written (aka rambling, incoherent, copied and pasted) student summaries! Includes instructions, tips, student template, and a time-saving scoring guide.



### Retrieval Routine



### Sentence Expansion

Perfect for teachers looking to help students remember the content they learn while building accountability and life-long study skills. Also great for teachers who like to have a daily routine for easy and meaningful lesson planning! Explains our four-step, easy-to-implement instructional routine and includes detailed teacher instructions and student resources.

Perfect for both content and ELA teachers who want to boost students' content knowledge, expand vocabulary, and develop "smart-sounding" sentences with a super-quick Type Three (And we really do mean quick! This assignment is just one sentence, but it really packs a punch!) Includes step-by-step instructions, reproducible student template, and sample FCAs.

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## Coming Attractions!

A Picture is Worth 1000 Words - How to Use Graphics to Improve Math Performance



VIRTUAL: January 24th

CAREER  
TECHNICAL  
EDUCATION

Graduate and Undergraduate Course for CTE teachers through Vermont State University

Using Student Papers to Improve Writing, Revising and Editing Skills; Increase Student Accountability; and Assess Progress



NEW JERSEY: February 5th

**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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