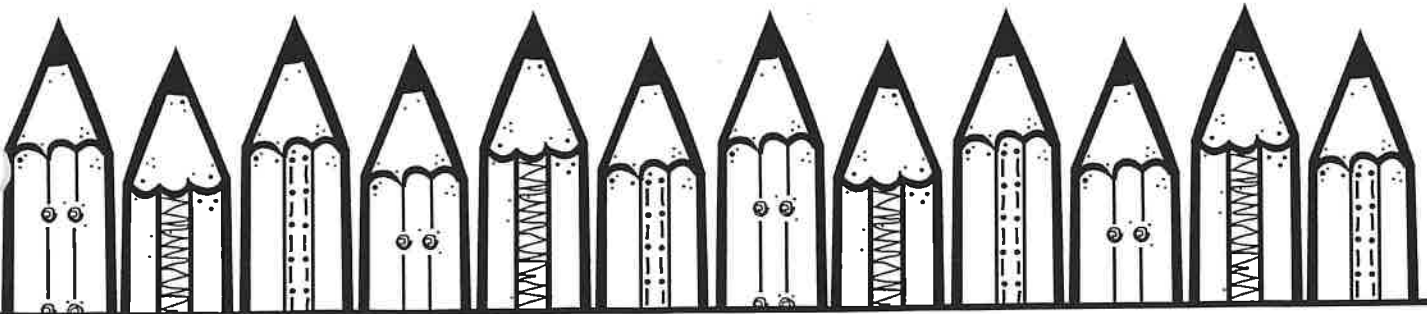




my OPINION
Writing BOOK

This Book Belongs to:



OPINION *Writing*



LESSON #3: *Selecting a Topic*

One of the first steps in Opinion Writing is selecting a topic. You want to select a topic that you will be able to support with at least 3 strong reasons. Choose three opinion topics that you are interested in writing about. Then, for each opinion topic, list three strong reasons that could be used to support each opinion. Finally, select and highlight the topic that you think would make the best opinion essay.

OPINION:

REASONS



OPINION:

REASONS

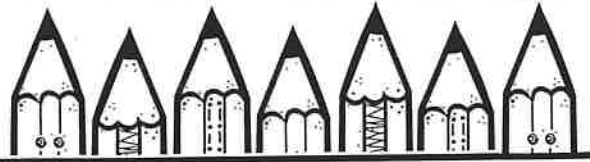


OPINION:

REASONS



OPINION *Writing*



LESSON #4: *Brainstorm & Organize*

Use the organizer below to brainstorm and organize your ideas.

My Opinion:

Reason #1:



Supporting Details & Examples:

Reason #2:



Supporting Details & Examples:

Reason #3:



Supporting Details & Examples:

OPINION *Writing*



LESSON #5: *Introduction Paragraph: Writing a Lead*

Opinion Writing should always start with a strong lead, or opening sentence, in order to grab the attention of your readers. Below are types of strong leads and examples for each. For each type, write a lead sentence based on your own opinion topic. Select and highlight the lead that you think would best fit your opinion essay.

Ask a Question:

Opinion: We should get a new dog.

Example: Wouldn't you love to come home from work each day to the warm welcome of a furry friend?

Try It: _____

Interesting Fact or Statistic:

Opinion: We should have less homework.

Example: A recent study found that students have 3 times more homework than is recommended by accredited educational associations.

Try It: _____

Quote:

Opinion: Abraham Lincoln was the best president in U.S. history.

Example: "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." These are words that Abraham Lincoln lived his life by.

Try It: _____

Set the Scene:

Opinion: I think we should go on a tropical vacation this summer.

Example: Imagine sandy beaches, a clear, blue sky, and waves crashing at your feet.

Try It: _____

OPINION *Writing*



LESSON #6: *Introduction Paragraph: Stating Your Opinion*

Once you have caught the attention of your readers, you will need to clearly state your opinion. Use the sentence starters provided to practice stating opinions about each of the topics below. Then write an opinion statement for your own opinion essay.

Sentence Starters for Stating Your Opinion:

- In my opinion...
- I believe...
- I think...
- In my view...
- I feel...
- I prefer...

Topic: My favorite subject in school.

My Opinion:

Topic: The best book ever written.

My Opinion:

Topic: Where we should go on our next field trip.

My Opinion:

My Opinion Statement:

OPINION Writing



LESSON #7: *Introduction Paragraph: Rough Draft*

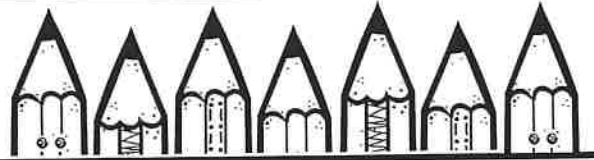
Your introduction paragraph should start with a strong lead (lesson 5). Then you should follow it up by clearly stating your opinion (lesson 6). To wrap it up, you also want to briefly introduce the reasons you have to support your opinion. See the sample below.

Sample Introduction Paragraph:

LEAD	[<u>Wouldn't you love to come home from work each day to the warm welcome of a furry friend?</u>
OPINION		<u>I think that our family should get a dog as a new pet.</u>
REASONS		A new dog would be a <u>loyal companion</u> who we could always count on. It will teach me the <u>responsibility</u> of caring for a pet. And most importantly, it will <u>bring our family together</u> in a whole new way.

Now write your own introduction paragraph. Refer to Lessons 5 and 6 for your lead and opinion statement.

OPINION *Writing*



LESSON #8: *Body Paragraphs: Topic Sentences*

- When writing your body paragraphs (three "reason" paragraphs), always start with a topic sentence.
- Topic sentences should be clear and concise, and each should state a reason to support your opinion.
- Use transitions to start each paragraph and state your reason:

Transitions for Providing Reasons:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| • First... | • Next... | • Lastly... |
| • To start... | • Another reason... | • Most importantly... |
| • To begin with... | • Finally... | • One last reason... |

Write a topic sentence for each of your reasons. Be sure to start with a transition and clearly state your reason for each.

Reason #1: _____

TOPIC SENTENCE:

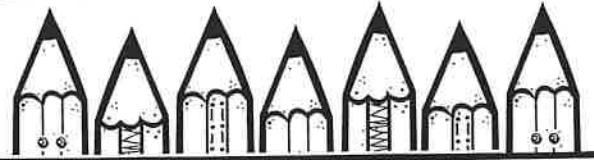
Reason #2: _____

TOPIC SENTENCE:

Reason #3: _____

TOPIC SENTENCE:

OPINION Writing



LESSON #9: *Body Paragraph #1 - Rough Draft*

- Following your topic sentence, provide examples to support your reason.
- Also be sure to provide further explanation for each example or detail.
- Start with a transition when providing examples to support your reasons:

Transitions for Examples or Details:

- For example...
- An example...
- For instance...
- Additionally...
- Specifically...
- Another example...
- In fact...
- Also...

Topic Sentence #1 (From Lesson 8):

Example or Detail:

↳ *Explanation:*

Example or Detail :

↳ *Explanation:*

Closing Sentence:

OPINION *Writing*



LESSON #9: *Body Paragraph #2 - Rough Draft*

- Following your topic sentence, provide examples to support your reason.
- Also be sure to provide further explanation for each example or detail.
- Start with a transition when providing examples to support your reasons:

Transitions for Examples or Details:

- For example...
- An example...
- For instance...
- Additionally...
- Specifically...
- Another example...
- In fact...
- Also...

Topic Sentence #2 (From Lesson 8):

Example or Detail:

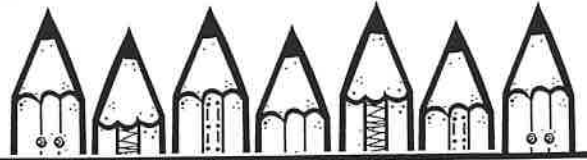
↳ *Explanation:*

Example or Detail :

↳ *Explanation:*

Closing Sentence:

OPINION *Writing*



LESSON #9: *Body Paragraph #3 - Rough Draft*

- Following your topic sentence, provide examples to support your reason.
- Also be sure to provide further explanation for each example or detail.
- Start with a transition when providing examples to support your reasons:

Transitions for Examples or Details:

- For example...
- An example...
- For instance...
- Additionally...
- Specifically...
- Another example...
- In fact...
- Also...

Topic Sentence #3 (From Lesson 8):

Example or Detail:

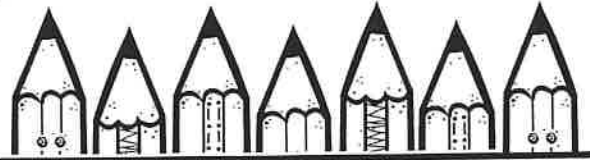
↳ *Explanation:*

Example or Detail :

↳ *Explanation:*

Closing Sentence:

OPINION *Writing*



LESSON #10: *Conclusion Paragraph: Rough Draft*

Use the following to help you write your conclusion paragraph:

- Start with a transition:

Transitions When Reaching a Conclusion:

- In conclusion...
- To conclude...
- As you can see...
- All in all...
- To summarize...
- To sum it up...

- Restate your topic and reasons. (Refer back to your introduction.)
- Add a final thought or "Call to Action".

Use the space below to write a conclusion paragraph.

OPINION *Writing*



LESSON 11: *Revision Checklist*

Now that you have completed your rough draft, it is now time to revise and make improvements in your writing style. Refer back to lessons 7, 9, and 10 to review and revise your paragraph rough drafts. Read through each several times, and use the checklists below to make changes as needed.

Introduction:

- I included a strong opening sentence to grab the attention of my readers.
- I clearly stated my opinion on the topic
- I used a transition or sentence frame when stating my opinion.
- I referred to my reasons.

Body Paragraphs:

- I started each paragraph with a topic sentence to state my reasons.
- I used supporting details and examples to support my reasons.
- I provided an explanation for each example or supporting detail.
- I used transitions when providing reasons and examples.

Conclusion:

- I started with a transition.
- I restated my opinion and reasons.
- I ended with a final thought or "Call to Action".

Overall Writing Style:

- Do my sentences and paragraphs flow and make sense?
- Do I need to add or delete any words?
- Do I need to move or change the placement of any words or sentences?
- Can I substitute any words to vary my word choice and add meaning?
- Did I vary my sentence style?
- Did I use transitions to connect ideas?