

MIDDLE GRADES (Grade 6– Grade 8)

English Reading and Writing

This SAMPLE is a brief overview of K12Guidance “study at home” program offered via mail.

The weekly lesson includes CONCEPT sheets (to learn) and six TASK sheets (to practice)

CONCEPT SHEET

Writing: Topic, Purpose

What does the Topic and Purpose of writing do?

Topic and purpose for writing together forms the theme of the writing.

Always clearly state the theme in a thesis statement. Thesis statement is always placed in the first paragraph.

REMEMEBR all details in the ONE paragraph essay should relate to the theme and if it is a multiple paragraph essay then each body paragraph should relate to the theme that is stated in the first paragraph.

The foremost important is to know your audience or readers.

The writer’s writing style and the voice depends on who is the audience.

EXAMPLE:

Topic : Non-Fiction Books

Purpose: to persuade your younger sibling that reading fiction is important

Audience: younger sibling

THESIS statement: Non-fiction books not only enrich our knowledge related to variety of objects or topics existing in this world, but also inspire us to invent something new or propel us to explore and go deep into the hidden facts of this universe.

TRANSITION WORDS OF ADDITION

and , also, besides, further, furthermore, too, moreover, in addition, then, together with, similarly, likewise, of course, as well as, coupled with, in like manner, not only.....but also, equally important, indeed

EXAMPLE: I watched the movie *The Bounty Hunter*. Besides an excellent star cast, the movie plot was extremely entertaining.

Language Mechanics – Capitalization Rules

RULE 9 – Capitalize the names of adjectives that make the names of ethnic groups and nationalizations, the names of ethnic groups nationalities, and languages.

EXAMPLE: My friend's family is from China. He can speak Chinese. .

I like Spanish music.

RULE 10 – Capitalize the first, last, and all other words in the titles of books, plays, songs, articles, magazines, newspapers, movies, television shows, the names of the days of the week, months of the year, and holidays.

I read the book *The Grapes of Wrath*.

COMPOUND SUBJECT and COMPOUND PREDICATE

A compound subject is two or more simple subjects that have the same predicate. The simple subjects are joined by *and*, *or*, or *but*.

EX: Smoke and car exhaust pollute the air.

A compound predicate is two or more simple predicates that have the same subject. The simple predicates are connected by *and*, *or*, or *but*.

Example: Jack planted and watered the oak trees.

Spelling: strengthening spellings

TASK: Fill in the missing consonant or missing vowel to complete the spelling word.

Use the clue to figure out the spelling word.

1. ____ g ____ l ____ (active)

2. c ____ m p l ____ ____ n c ____ (agreement)

3. t r ____ v ____ ____ l (minor)

4. n ____ ____ v ____ (raw)

5. ____ r r ____ t ____ c (unreliable)

6. ____ i ____ u ____ ____ e (reveal)

7. p r ____ p ____ l (force)

8. r ____ s h l y (foolishly)

Grammar: subject-predicate

TASK: Read the sentence and write SUBJECT and PREDICATE as directed

1. Sara and her family went on a five weeks Europe trip.

Compound SUBJECT _____

Simple PREDICATE _____

2. In Europe, we visited many places of tourist interest and enjoyed different cuisines.

Simple SUBJECT _____

Compound PREDICATE _____

3. The city of Milan has beautiful botanical garden.

Simple SUBJECT _____

Complete PREDICATE _____

4. My cousins and I along with my parents did parasailing and scuba diving.

Compound SUBJECT _____

Compound PREDICATE _____

5. In Switzerland, the snow covered mountain hills looked beautiful.

Simple PREDICATE _____

Complete PREDICATE _____

6. Our trip to Europe was amazing.

Simple SUBJECT _____ Simple PREDICATE _____

Complete SUBJECT _____

Complete PREDICATE _____

Language Mechanics: capitalization

TASK: Rewrite each sentence correcting the capitalization errors.

1. Grade eight read the book a passage to india.

2. My group of friends watched the movie *all the president's men*.

3. Every saturday my family goes to little angel family club.

4. my dad reads new your times and i read popular science.

5. have you seen the television show *zack and cody*. It was hilarious.

6. disney produced the movie *beauty and the beast*.

7. I like german movies and I also read german authors.

8. People of brazil speak portugese.

Writing Techniques: using transition words

TASK: Use the following Transition words in the brief idea of your own (*not more than 2-3 sentences*).

TRANSITION WORDS –to show addition or to show similarity

furthermore: also, still, in addition

similarly: also, equally, alike

likewise: also, too, similarly

besides: as well, also, too

Writing: thesis statement

TASK: Read the topic and purpose of each writing. Then add a thesis statement that goes with each topic.

TOPIC: Homework

Purpose: to persuade your teacher to reduce the amount of homework given everyday

Thesis statement:

TOPIC: Discipline

Purpose: to explain people discipline in any sphere is important

Thesis statement:

TOPIC: Environment

Purpose: to inform your friends that what steps a community can take to keep the environment clean

Thesis statement:

TOPIC: Wild Life

Purpose: to persuade the readers that it is important to preserve the natural habitats

Thesis statement:

CONCEPT SHEET

WRITING

- **THE PURPOSE**

It is very important that when we read the writing task, the first step is to understand the purpose of that writing task. The purpose can be to entertain, to persuade, to inform or may be a combination of all these.

- **THE AUDIENCE**

Next is to know who are your audience? Are you addressing the parents, students, friends, teacher, school principal, or just addressing the general audience.

Knowing the audience will help the writer to decide what information to include and what writing style to use, such as formal or informal.

Writing to Principal – FORMAL - School hours are too long for an average student. Thus if the school board could consider to reduce the hours, it will be beneficial for all.

INSTEAD informal – The school board should reduce the school hours. They are too long for all.

TRANSITION WORDS - TO CONNECT CONTRASTING OR OPPOSITE IDEAS:

Alternatively even so or while yet though still

regardless on the contrary on the other hand now withstanding

nonetheless nevertheless conversely at the same time

for all that rather but another otherwise namely instead

in spite of indeed in contrast however despite conversely but although

Vocabulary: enhancing the word bank – word usage

TASK: Pick an appropriate word from the box to complete each brief idea

naïve, erratic, divulge, trivial, compliance, rashly, propel, agile
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1. The new advancements in technology and in other fields have made our life extremely comfortable. Thus, it is essential to evolve new ways to keep our minds and bodies _____.
2. Though the inevitable comforts dissuade us to _____ ourselves towards embracing slightly aggressive physical or mental fitness lifestyle, yet we cannot act _____ to the horrifying consequences of the deteriorating health.
3. Some patients do not feel comfortable sharing their medical history with anyone. Therefore, It is essential for the medical practitioner to take the consent of the patient before he _____ patient's medical condition to the patient's family.
4. The new President of the sports club randomly changed plenty of Sports Club rules for the employees as well as for the customers. Hence, his _____ action has created annoyance among the sports club management team and the customers.
5. Even though some of the members showed _____ with the changes the new President has implemented; however, some considered his actions _____ driven. Thus, it has created unrest among the sports club administration.

Spellings: strengthening spellings

TASK: Read and spell each word to do WORD SEARCH

naive,	erratic,	divulge,	trivial,
compliance,	rashly,	propel,	agile

A D C U K W A I R P G M T A Y
F G E I K D Y W V O T N T P L
S W I J T T I B C H W D Z F H
M K Y L G A Y M S K J U L D S
N H L K E L R D C E W T I M A
S K A I E E C R E Q W V U W R
A U E P K N O C E I U K V Q E
H R O N P L M P C L N A I V E
B R R E U E P W G G V C B Y J
P I K B Q R L E A Q W N F B T
L X X U W I I S L D B B V T E
F M X P L L A G A D R W R X K
P P X I O D N N G U N F U M Y
U S A S Q W C P S L I C C A M
V G Q X D Y E L A I V I R T C

Grammar: types of sentences

TASK: Do as directed

1. Write an example of Interrogative sentences

2. Write an example of Imperative sentence

3. Write a brief idea in two sentences using Interrogative and Declarative.

4. Write a brief idea (2-3 sentences) using imperative and exclamatory sentence.

Language Mechanics: capitalization- quotation marks

TASK: Rewrite the following sentences with correct capitalization.

1. Jake said , “he is going to the movie tonight.”

2. “Today,” Ms. Glen announced, “we will learn Newton’s laws.”

3. “Come for practice tomorrow,” said the coach. “i will teach new moves.”

4. “School is closed,” The receptionist informed the students.

5. “today,” said the teacher. “is the first day of Spelling Bee competition.”

6. Jason said, “he was expecting a good grade on the math test.”

7. Jessica said, “don’t wait for me. I’ll join you all later.”

Writing Technique: using transition words

TASK: Use the following Transition words in the short idea of your own (not more than 2-3 sentences).

TRANSITION WORDS – To CONNECT CONTRASTING or OPPOSITE IDEAS

although: though, while, even though

Despite: notwithstanding, in spite of

Indeed: certainly, really, definitely, truly

Even though : even if, although, despite the fact

Writing: Topic, purpose and audience

TASK: For the audience listed below, write a short paragraph (12-14 sentences) on the following topic.

TOPIC: Should the elementary grades take a trip to the science museum?

Audience: parents

TASK: Read the **TOPIC** and the **PURPOSE**. Find the **AUDIENCE**. Then write a write a short paragraph (12-14 sentences).

TOPIC: A favorite non-fiction

PURPOSE: to inform friends about the non-fiction that you liked reading very much.

AUDIENCE: _____
