

What writing problems are you or your students struggling with?

- *I just don't know how to offer productive feedback that will improve my students writing.*
- *How do I manage a classroom of diverse writers?*
- *If given free choice my students don't know what to write.*
- *My students are struggling with how to respond to text.*
- *How do I teach voice in writing?*
- *How do I get my students to elaborate more in their writing?*
- *There isn't enough time for direct instruction.*
- *My students lack basic understanding of good writing skills.*
- *When I look at student work there are so many issues. How do I know which ones are most important?*
- *My students don't understand the differences in genre and author's purpose.*
- *How do I keep my students from writing a grocery list of items?*
- *Why is it important for students to be able to annotate text?*
- *When do I teach grammar and mechanics?*
- *How can I bring writing into all content areas?*
- *All my students' stories start the same way. What strategies can I give them to create more entertaining beginnings?*
- *What are some effective ways to teach sentence variety?*
- *I feel our writing program lacks the structure my students need.*
- *When I model for my students I find they create similar pieces – is that ok?*



- *Once my students understand the organization of expository the next biggest problem I have is getting them to add more specific details. How do I do that?*



- *How do I get my reluctant writers to write?*
- *My students have to take a timed writing assessment – how do I prepare them for that test?*
- *What’s the best way to get students to revise their work?*
- *My students consistently end their stories with “THE END”, or going to bed, or waking from a dream. Are there techniques I can teach them to come up with a more satisfying ending?*
- *If my students need to focus monthly on response to text how important is it that they practice prompt writing?*
- *My students struggle with literary analysis tasks.*
- *How do I keep my students from plagiarizing?*
- *How do I get my students to add suspense to their stories?*
- *I notice my students include lots of random details that have nothing to do with the story. How can I get them to focus on just what is important?*
- *My students struggle with writing about concepts and themes, such as, honesty, courage, friendship, etc.*
- *I can’t get my SPED students to write anything.*

- *I read many mentor texts to my students, but it doesn’t help their writing at all.*
- *When I read the main events of stories I find that they are mostly summarized list of actions as opposed to a well-developed scene.*
- *How can I conference with each student in meaningful way, when there is little time?*
- *My students struggle with choosing good main ideas. How do I help them with that?*
- *What’s the best way to expand word choice?*
- *I struggle with finding good ways to manage student writing. Do you have suggestions for that?*
- *Do you use journals in your classroom?*
- *What does writing across the curriculum actually look like?*
- *How can we be more consistent in scoring student writing?*
- *How do I prepare my students to respond to multiple texts?*
- *What is the Organizational Framework of Expository/ Informative Writing (Explanatory)*



Fear not! We have the solutions....

[Empowering Writers Teacher Guides](#) and [Empowering Writers Online](#) provide the solutions and the “how-to” to overcome the challenges you face with writing instruction and in improving your students’ writing. Our easy to follow methodology and lesson plans give you everything you need to provide students with the explicit instruction to become fluent writers, strategic readers, and confident test takers.