7th Grade Writing Workshops

Descriptive Essay – Writing Workshop Unit 1

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information
   C. Thesis

II. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea
   A. Support – sensory detail examples
   B. Support – sensory detail examples

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea
   A. Support – sensory detail examples
   B. Support – sensory detail examples

IV. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea
   A. Support – sensory detail examples
   B. Support – sensory detail examples

V. Conclusion - Relate back to thesis and extend with a closing idea that leaves your reader thinking about your topic.

Additional Notes:
✓ Choose to organize your body paragraphs by chronological ideas or by order of importance.
   **Chronological** – Each body paragraph should detail ideas in the order they happened.
   **Order of Importance** – Body paragraphs should begin with least important idea and build to the most important.
A narrative should include 8 essential elements:

1. Setting
2. Situation (Background)
3. Characters
4. Initial Incident
5. Conflict
6. Plot Events
7. Climax
8. Resolution/Impact

Beginning Paragraph(s) – Exposition
- Attention Grabber
- Introduces one well-defined event in the writer’s life
- Provides Situation (Background) information to help the reader understand the plot

Middle Paragraph(s) – Rising Action, Climax
- Describes event using chronological order (optional: use a flashback)
- Includes specific details using sensory language to show feelings and reactions

End Paragraph(s) – Falling Action/Resolution
- Resolve the conflict and/or story. Loose ends are tied up and the story comes to a close.
- Explain event’s significance or your attitude toward the event.

Additional Notes:
- Dialogue should reveal character and move the plot forward.
- Transition words/phrases should be used between and within paragraphs to move the reader from Beginning, Middle, to End.
Response to Literature: Review of Short Story – Writing Workshop Unit 2

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information – brief summary of story
   C. Thesis – explains theme

II. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea introduces the event
   A. Support – textual examples and personal reactions that includes literary elements (i.e. characters, plot, mood)
   B. Support – textual examples and personal reactions that includes literary elements (i.e. characters, plot, mood)

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea introduces the event
   A. Support – textual examples and personal reactions that includes literary elements (i.e. characters, plot, mood)
   B. Support – textual examples and personal reactions that includes literary elements (i.e. characters, plot, mood)

IV. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea introduces the event
   A. Support – textual examples and personal reactions that includes literary elements (i.e. characters, plot, mood)
   B. Support – textual examples and personal reactions that includes literary elements (i.e. characters, plot, mood)

V. Conclusion – Restate theme in a different way and demonstrate how readers can do this in their own life.

Additional Notes:
✓ Body paragraphs should introduce specific events from the text chronologically that support the theme.
Narration: Short Story – Writing Workshop Unit 2

A narrative should include 8 essential elements:

1. Setting
2. Situation (Background)
3. Characters
4. Initial Incident
5. Conflict
6. Plot Events
7. Climax
8. Resolution/Theme

Beginning Paragraph(s) – Exposition
- Attention Grabber
- Introduces one well-defined fictional event/conflict and develop characters
- Provides Situation (Background) information to help the reader understand the plot

Middle Paragraph(s) – Rising Action, Climax
- Describes event using chronological order
- Includes specific details using sensory language to show feelings and reactions
- Uses foreshadowing to build suspense

End Paragraph(s) – Falling Action/Resolution
- Resolve the conflict and/or story. Loose ends are tied up and the story comes to a close.
- Identify theme that is reflected in the story’s plot.

Additional Notes:
- Dialogue should reveal character and move the plot forward.
- Transition words/phrases should be used between and within paragraphs to move the reader from Beginning, Middle, to End.
How-to Essay – Writing Workshop Unit 3

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information and Importance
   C. Thesis/Focused Topic

II. Body – List of Materials

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea introduces multi-step directions
   A. Support – sequence of logical steps explained in chronological order
   B. Support – uses and explains technical vocabulary related to topic as needed
   C. Optional Support – charts, illustrations, and diagrams

IV. Conclusion – Restate thesis/Focused Topic and Importance. State a Call to Action.

Additional Notes:
✓ Body of directions should be multiple paragraphs with transition words/phrases used between and within paragraphs.
Block method

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information
   C. Thesis

II. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Subject #1)
   A. Support (Aspect #1)
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support (Aspect #2)
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   C. Support (Aspect #3)
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Subject #2)
   A. Support (Aspect #1)
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support (Aspect #2)
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   C. Support (Aspect #3)
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

IV. Conclusion – Restate thesis and summarize similarities and differences.
7th Grade Writing Workshops

**Point-by-point organization**

I. **Introduction**
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information
   C. Thesis

II. **Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Aspect #1)**
   A. Support (Subject #1)
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support (Subject #2)
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

III. **Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Aspect #2)**
    A. Support (Subject #1)
       1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
       2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
    B. Support (Subject #2)
       1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
       2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

IV. **Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Aspect #3)**
    A. Support (Subject #1)
       1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
       2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
    B. Support (Subject #2)
       1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
       2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

V. **Conclusion – Restate and reinforce thesis**
Argument: Problem-and-Solution Essay – Writing Workshop Unit 4

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information on topic
   C. Thesis – State problem and emphasize the need for change

II. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (1st Issue of Problem)
   A. Support – explanation of issue and its effects/impacts
   B. Support – explanation of proposed solution

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (2nd Issue of Problem)
   A. Support – explanation of issue and its effects/impacts
   B. Support – explanation of proposed solution

IV. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (3rd Issue of Problem)
   A. Support – explanation of issue and its effects/impacts
   B. Support – explanation of proposed solution

V. Conclusion – Restate thesis with emphasis of problem’s importance. State a Call to Action.
Persuasion: Persuasive Essay – Writing Workshop Unit 4

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information
   C. Thesis

II. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea for Reason #1 (strong)
   A. Support – examples, facts, quotations, statistics, anecdotes, observations
   B. Support – examples, facts, quotations, statistics, anecdotes, observations

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea for Reason #2 (stronger)
   A. Support – examples, facts, quotations, statistics, anecdotes, observations
   B. Support – examples, facts, quotations, statistics, anecdotes, observations

IV. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea introducing Counterargument
   A. Support – proof opposition is weak or incorrect
   B. Support - examples, facts, quotations, statistics, anecdotes, observations

V. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea for Reason #3 (strongest)
   A. Support – examples, facts, quotations, statistics, anecdotes, observations
   B. Support – examples, facts, quotations, statistics, anecdotes, observations

VI. Conclusion – Restate thesis and explain importance of topic. (Optional: State a Call to Action.)
Exposition: Cause-and-Effect Essay – Writing Workshop Unit 5

Single Cause/Many Effects

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information
   C. Thesis – Establish a controlling idea

II. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Cause)
   A. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Effect #1)
   A. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

IV. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Effect #2)
   A. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

V. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Effect #3)
   A. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

VI. Conclusion – Restate importance of topic and its impact on society. (Optional: Identify possible long-term effects not previously stated.)
Many Causes/Single Effect

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information
   C. Thesis – Establish a controlling idea

II. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Cause #1)
   A. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Cause #2)
   A. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

IV. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Cause #3)
   A. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations
   B. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way, applying it to a particular case, or contrasting it with another point
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

V. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Effect)
   A. Support
      1. Extend the idea by restating in a new way
      2. Elaborate with specific examples, facts, or explanations

VI. Conclusion – Restate importance of topic and its impact on society. (Optional: Identify possible long-term effects not previously stated.)
Workplace Writing: Business Letter – Writing Workshop Unit 6

I. Introduction
   a. a clear statement of your request/purpose for writing the letter

II. Body – supporting details
   a. specific reason the company should grant your request
   b. specific reason the company should grant your request

III. Conclusion
   a. thank the recipient
   b. remind the recipient of your purpose

Additional Notes:
✓ Make sure you follow the formatting guidelines shown in your book
✓ Use formal language (The tone of your letter should be friendly yet serious and respectful. You are not writing to a friend so do not use slang, text abbreviations, etc. that are used in everyday conversation.)
✓ Supporting details should be developed and come in a logical order (chronological, least important to most important, etc.)
Exposition: Research Report – Writing Workshop Unit 6

I. Introduction
   A. Attention Grabber
   B. Background Information
   C. Thesis – a specific focus, or main idea (a statement that can be proved)

II. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Main Point #1)
   A. Support A – facts, details, examples, explanations
   B. Support B – facts, details, examples, explanations
   C. Support C – facts, details, examples, explanations

III. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Main Point #2)
   A. Support A – facts, details, examples, explanations
   B. Support B – facts, details, examples, explanations
   C. Support C – facts, details, examples, explanations

IV. Body – Topic Sentence/Main Idea (Main Point #3)
   A. Support A – facts, details, examples, explanations
   B. Support B – facts, details, examples, explanations
   C. Support C – facts, details, examples, explanations

V. Conclusion – Restate thesis including a statement of whether the research did or did not support the thesis.