

Day 5

Using Write Now! pg.14 and pg.77 and the Portfolio

Skill Builder

Use these homophones in a sentence:

accept/except, there/their, than/then, who's/whose

Talk about the definition of a homophone - words that sound alike but have different meanings.

Pull out classroom dictionaries and challenge students to work in pairs to write a sentence for each word above.

Write Now

Tell what you do and do not like about your home.

This prompt is perfect for a 5-paragraph essay. Use the 5-paragraph essay overhead transparency and do a modeled whole class writing lesson with this prompt.

Pick an imaginary home, tell why you do or do not like it and write it in the top introduction/thesis square.

Example:

Why I like my single story condominium.

Now, in the three squares under the top one, write reasons to support the introduction/thesis.

For example:

1. *Condo is small and cozy.*
2. *Condo is close to school.*
3. *Condo has a pool.*

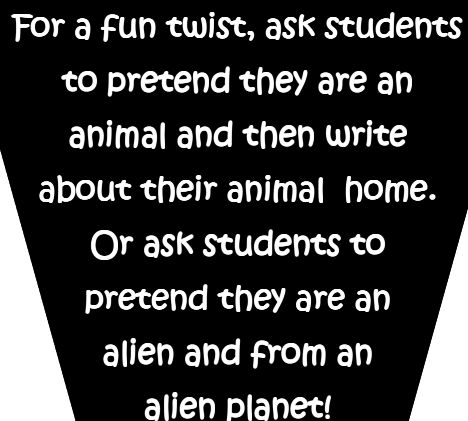
Explain to students that the bottom rectangle marked *Conclusion* is a place for the writer to restate the introduction. In it, write -
My condo is perfect for my family and me.

Once the organizer is complete, teach students how to read it aloud like you are telling the story. Then, as a group or in small groups, ask students to write the rough draft of this story.

Once the rough drafts are complete, ask students to do the revision activity #1 on pg. 77 of *Write Now!* :

1. *Highlight the first three words of each sentence. Do your sentences all begin the same or are they varied?*
2. *List all the verbs in your writing. Pick five of them to change and make more interesting. How many of your verbs are action versus linking or state of being?*
3. *List all the adjectives in your writing. Pick five of them to improve with more precise and creative words.*

Highlighting words helps students to be more creative in their word choice. Many of these revision activities work nicely with this writing assignment.



For a fun twist, ask students to pretend they are an animal and then write about their animal home. Or ask students to pretend they are an alien and from an alien planet!