

Appendix

Writing Workshop Day 5

Sample Mini-lesson 9

Teaching Point: Writers edit their work in order to make decisions about the use of grammar, spelling, and punctuation that will communicate their ideas to their readers. One way to edit is to reread, paying attention to how the use of punctuation causes you to read your writing.

Connect: At this point, we all have drafts that we've been working on and revising and are now ready to pay close attention to editing our writing to get it ready for our final publication and celebration. Writers reread their work to make editing decisions about the use of grammar, spelling, and punctuation that will communicate their ideas to their readers. Throughout the year, we've been noticing and talking about how when we read our touchstone authors, their use of punctuation tells the reader the way the piece should be read. Today, we're going to practice rereading our drafts, paying attention to how the use of punctuation causes us to read our writing.

Teach: In editing my own writing, I want to read it to myself, checking to see if I've used punctuation correctly. I'm going to put a copy of my latest draft on an overhead projector and ask you to listen to the way my use of punctuation in my writing causes me to read it. As I read aloud my draft I'll do a think aloud about the editing decisions I need to make based on the way the punctuation has me read. I'm going to mark the editing changes I make in my writing with a highlighter pen. *Facilitator reads aloud her draft, emphasizing where the punctuation is and is not and then does a think aloud about needed editing changes. For example, the facilitator may purposefully leave out periods, therefore when she reads the run-on sentences she hears that there is no break when her thoughts run together. The facilitator then marks the draft with a highlighter, putting in periods and thinking aloud her decisions. It's important to model correcting punctuation that has previously been discussed by reading authors, learning correct usage, and applying it to one's writing.*

Active Involvement: Turn and talk with your partner about how rereading my writing, paying attention to the punctuation, helped me determine where punctuation was working and where I needed to make changes.

Link: When you're working on your writing today, reread your own drafts and pay attention to how your use of punctuation causes you to read your writing. There are colored pens on your tables to use when making editing changes. During share time today, we'll talk about the editing changes you've made to improve your writing.

Sample minilesson 10

Teaching Point: Writers reflect on their writing process to celebrate strengths and in order to set writing goals for themselves.

Connect: Wow! What amazing writing! And how wonderful it was for you to share your writing during our celebration. Now that we've published our writing, this is a great opportunity to reflect on ourselves as writers to celebrate strengths and in order to set writing goals for ourselves.

Teach: Let me share with you how I wrote a reflection on myself as a writer and I'm going to ask you to do the same thing today. I asked myself two questions. *Facilitator points to a chart with the two questions written under a heading: Reflecting on Myself as a Writer.* The first question I asked myself was, What do I feel are my strengths in this publication? The second question I asked was, What goals would I like to set for myself as a writer? Hmmmm. The first question has me thinking about all of the hard work I've done for this publication and the second question has me thinking about goals for myself as a writer for future work. Hmmmm. Well, let me read to you the reflection that I wrote in my writers notebook. *Facilitator reads aloud her reflection, modeling ideas as examples to answer the questions.*

Active Involvement: Take a couple of minutes to think about the reflection questions before you go off to write a reflection.

Link: What a great opportunity to think about your strengths and goals for yourself as a writer. When you go off and find a place where you can do this careful thinking, take out your writers notebooks and write your reflection in it. When we come back to share we'll hear one thing from everyone – either a strength or a future goal.