

# GR 4 Schoolwide Unit 1 (How Writers Work)

Content Area: **English Language Arts**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Sept. - Oct.**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

---

Unit Title: Nonfiction: How Writers Work

Essential Question: What are the rituals, routines, and resources of writing workshop?

## Standards

---

### Writing Domain

---

ELA.W.AW.4.1	Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
ELA.W.AW.4.1.A	Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose.
ELA.W.AW.4.1.B	Provide reasons that are supported by facts from texts and/or other sources.
ELA.W.AW.4.1.C	Link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition).
ELA.W.AW.4.1.D	Provide a conclusion related to the opinion presented.
ELA.W.IW.4.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
ELA.W.IW.4.2.A	Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), text features (e.g., illustrations, diagrams, captions) and multimedia when useful to aid in comprehension.
ELA.W.IW.4.2.B	Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, text evidence, or other information and examples related to the topic.
ELA.W.IW.4.2.C	Link ideas within paragraphs and sections of information using words and phrases (e.g., another, for example, also, because).
ELA.W.IW.4.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
ELA.W.IW.4.2.E	Provide a conclusion related to the information or explanation presented.
ELA.W.NW.4.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using narrative technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
ELA.W.NW.4.3.A	Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.
ELA.W.NW.4.3.B	Use dialogue and description to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations.

ELA.W.NW.4.3.C	Use a variety of transitional words and phrases to manage the sequence of events.
ELA.W.NW.4.3.D	Use concrete words, phrases, and sensory details and explore using figurative language to convey experiences and events precisely.
ELA.W.NW.4.3.E	Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events.
ELA.W.WP.4.4	With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.
ELA.W.WP.4.4.A	Identify audience, purpose, and intended length of composition before writing.
ELA.W.WP.4.4.B	Use specialized, topic-specific language appropriate for the audience, purpose and subject matter.
ELA.W.WP.4.4.C	Consider writing as a process, including self-evaluation, revision and editing.
ELA.W.WP.4.4.D	With adult and peer feedback, and digital or print tools such as a dictionary, thesaurus, and/or spell checker, evaluate whether the writing achieved its goal and make changes in content or form as necessary.
ELA.W.WP.4.4.E	After initial drafting, expand, combine, and reduce sentences for meaning, audience, and style.
ELA.W.WR.4.5	Conduct short research projects that use multiple reference sources (print and non-print) and build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.
ELA.W.SE.4.6	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources; take notes, prioritize and categorize information; provide a list of sources.
ELA.W.RW.4.7	Write routinely over extended time frames (with time for research and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## Language Domain

---

ELA.L.WF.4.3	Demonstrate command of the conventions of writing, including those listed under grade three foundational skills:
ELA.L.WF.4.3.A	Use basic paragraphing, including using paragraph indentations and using paragraphs in dialogue.
ELA.L.WF.4.3.B	Place adjectives and adverbs and form comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs.
ELA.L.WF.4.3.C	Use independent clauses and coordinating conjunctions.
ELA.L.WF.4.3.D	Form irregular verbs; form and use progressive tenses.
ELA.L.WF.4.3.E	Form and use possessive nouns and pronouns.
ELA.L.WF.4.3.F	Capitalize the first word in quotations as appropriate, capitalize other important words (e.g., section headings).
ELA.L.WF.4.3.G	Use underlining, quotation marks, or italics for titles; use quotation marks for direct speech; use comma before a coordinating conjunction in a compound sentence.
ELA.L.WF.4.3.H	Use apostrophes for possession.
ELA.L.KL.4.1	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
ELA.L.KL.4.1.A	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases.
ELA.L.KL.4.1.B	Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely.
ELA.L.KL.4.1.C	Choose punctuation for effect.

ELA.L.VL.4.2	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning academic and domain-specific words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
ELA.L.VL.4.2.A	Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
ELA.L.VL.4.2.C	Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation and determine or clarify the precise meaning of key words and phrases.
ELA.L.VI.4.3	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
ELA.L.VI.4.3.A	Explain the meaning of simple similes and metaphors (e.g., as pretty as a picture) in context.
ELA.L.VI.4.3.C	Recognize and explain the meaning of common idioms, adages, and proverbs.
ELA.L.VI.4.3.D	Demonstrate understanding of words by relating them to their opposites (antonyms) and to words with similar but not identical meanings (synonyms).

## Speaking and Listening

---

ELA.SL.PE.4.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
ELA.SL.PE.4.1.A	Explicitly draw on previously read text or material and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.
ELA.SL.PE.4.1.B	Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.
ELA.SL.PE.4.1.C	Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.
ELA.SL.PE.4.1.D	Review the key ideas expressed and explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.
ELA.SL.II.4.2	Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, and orally).
ELA.SL.ES.4.3	Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points.
ELA.SL.PI.4.4	Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.
ELA.SL.UM.4.5	Add audio recordings and visual displays to presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes.
ELA.SL.AS.4.6	Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion); use formal English when appropriate to task and situation.

## Materials/Activities/Resources

---

### Core materials:

- Schoolwide Writing

## **Web Site Resources:**

- Schoolwide Writing
- Lexia
- Amira (K-3)

## **Technology**

---

- Screencastify
- Full list on district teacher page
- YouTube videos of mentor texts readings

## **Assessment**

---

### **Formative Assessment**

- Teacher Observation
- Peer Editing
- Shared Writing
- Writer's Notebook
- Graphic Organizers / Student Forms
- Daily Lesson Checks and Correct & Redirect Opportunities in the Teacher's Guide
- Student Performance Checklist

### **Summative Assessment**

- Process Pieces
- Schoolwide Rubrics
- Student Publishing
- Student Self-Reflection

## **Accommodations & Modifications**

---

### **Special Education**

- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Scribe
- Mixed Ability Grouping

- In class/pull out support with special ed teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Scribe
- Mixed Ability Grouping

### **ELL**

- Translation device/dictionary
- In class/pull out support with ESL teacher
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support

### **At-Risk of Failure**

- Additional time during intervention time
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support

### **Gifted & Talented**

- Independent projects
- PEP/GEM class
- Above-Level Reading Materials

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

---

Social Studies Connections: Communication

## **Social and Emotional Learning Connections**

---

Learning Mindset: Self-Reflection, Problem Solving, Noticing, Seeking Challenges, Purpose

## **21st Century Life Literacies & Key Skills**

---

Financial Health

Financial Landscape

Money Management

Career Awareness and Planning

Creativity and Innovation

Critical Thinking and Problem-solving

Digital Citizenship

Global and Cultural Awareness

Information and Media Literacy

Technology Literacy

Standards in Action: Climate Change

## **Career Ready Practices**

---

- CRP1. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- CRP2. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- CRP4. Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason
- CRP5. Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
- CRP6. Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- CRP11. Use technology to enhance productivity.