

Grade 1 Unit Overviews

UNIT 1: INTRODUCING NARRATIVE WRITING

Why This Unit Is Important

This unit introduces narrative writing, using a variety of approaches to help students learn about narrative text and identify its common features. In this gradual release model, students study an exemplar text, watch a teacher model writing a narrative, then collaboratively write several different narrative pieces, culminating in a small group writing activity in which they draw on Knowledge Strand Domain 2, *The Human Body*, to compose a narrative about solving a problem.

Pacing Guide

Writing Studio Unit 1	Domain 2, <i>The Human Body</i>
Lesson 1	Lesson 5
Lesson 2	Lesson 6
Lesson 3	Pausing Point 1
Lesson 4	Pausing Point 2
Lesson 5	Lesson 7
Lesson 6	Lesson 8
Lesson 7	Lesson 9
Lesson 8	Lesson 10

Why This Unit Is Important

In this unit, students continue to develop their understanding of and ability to craft narratives. Using extensive scaffolding, it guides students through a review of domain knowledge, then draws on the work they have already done to understand the narratives in Knowledge Strand, Domain 3, *Different Lands, Similar Stories*. Student use their understanding of these texts to a craft a narrative in which they retell one of these stories using appropriate sequencing and transition words.

Pacing Guide

Writing Studio Unit 2	Domain 3, <i>Different Lands, Similar Stories</i>
Lesson 1	Lesson 2
Lesson 2	Lesson 4
Lesson 3	Lesson 5
Lesson 4	Lesson 6
Lesson 5	Pausing Point 1
Lesson 6	Pausing Point 2
Lesson 7	Lesson 7
Lesson 8	Lesson 8

Why This Unit Is Important

This unit introduces opinion writing, using a variety of approaches to help students learn the purpose of opinion text and to identify its common features. Student study an exemplar text, see a teacher model how to write an opinion piece, then collaboratively write several different opinion pieces, culminating in an activity in which they draw on Knowledge Strand Domain 4 to write an opinion essay on whether King Tut or Hatshepsut is their favorite Egyptian.

Pacing Guide

Writing Studio Unit 3	Domain 4, <i>Early World Civilizations</i>
Lesson 1	Lesson 7
Lesson 2	Lesson 8
Lesson 3	Lesson 9
Lesson 4	Lesson 10
Lesson 5	Lesson 11
Lesson 6	Lesson 12
Lesson 7	Pausing Point 2
Lesson 8	Pausing Point 3

Why This Unit Is Important

This unit helps students deepen their understanding of and ability to construct opinion texts. Using scaffolding that allows for increasing writing independence, it guides students through a review of domain knowledge, then draws on what they have learned in Knowledge Strand, Domain 5. Students use their understanding of *Early American Civilizations* to craft an opinion text explaining which civilization they would like to travel back in time to visit and giving a reason for their choice.

Pacing Guide

Writing Studio Unit 4	Domain 5, <i>Early American Civilizations</i>
Lesson 1	Lesson 5
Lesson 2	Lesson 6
Lesson 3	Lesson 7
Lesson 4	Lesson 8
Lesson 5	Pausing Point 2
Lesson 6	Lesson 9
Lesson 7	Lesson 10
Lesson 8	Lesson 11

Why This Unit Is Important

This unit introduces informative writing, using a variety of approaches to help students learn the purpose of informational text and identify its common features. Students study an exemplar text, see a teacher model how to write an informative piece, and then collaboratively write several informational texts, including a small group writing activity in which they draw on Knowledge Strand, Domain 8 to compare and contrast two animal habitats.

Pacing Guide

Writing Studio Unit 5	Domain 8, <i>Animals and Habitats</i>
Lesson 1	Lesson 4
Lesson 2	Pausing Point 1
Lesson 3	Pausing Point 2
Lesson 4	Lesson 5
Lesson 5	Lesson 6
Lesson 6	Lesson 7
Lesson 7	Lesson 8
Lesson 8	Lesson 9

Why This Unit Is Important

In the final unit expressly devoted to informative writing, students continue to develop their understanding of and ability to craft informational texts. Using extensive scaffolding, this unit guides students through a review of domain knowledge, then draws on the work they have already done in Knowledge Strand, Domain 9. Students use their understanding of this domain to craft an informative text describing the elements of a fairy tale.

Pacing Guide

Writing Studio Unit 6	Domain 9, <i>Fairy Tales</i>
Lesson 1	Lesson 4
Lesson 2	Lesson 5
Lesson 3	Pausing Point 1
Lesson 4	Pausing Point 2
Lesson 5	Lesson 6
Lesson 6	Lesson 7
Lesson 7	Lesson 8
Lesson 8	Lesson 9

Why This Unit Is Important

Grade 1 Writing Studio culminates in a unit that presents students with an authentic writing opportunity—to compose a text that students can use to tell their families about life on the American frontier. Students select one of three previously studied text types to compose their final piece of writing, then share it with peers and with the work’s intended audience.

Pacing Guide

Writing Studio Unit 7	Domain 11, <i>Frontier Explorers</i>
Lesson 1	Pausing Point 2
Lesson 2	Lesson 5
Lesson 3	Lesson 6
Lesson 4	Lesson 7
Lesson 5	Lesson 8
Lesson 6	Lesson 9
Lesson 7	Lesson 10
Lesson 8	Lesson 11