# Writing Foundations 

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Example 1. Handwriting Instruction

## $\overline{\mathrm{P}} \quad \overline{\mathrm{P}} \quad \overline{\mathrm{P}} \quad \overline{\mathrm{P}} \quad \overline{\mathrm{P}}$



## Example 2a. Handwriting Fluency Practice

1. Haste makes waste.
2. Two heads are better than one.
3. Early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.
4. The best things in life are free.
5. You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink.
6. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.
7. Time flies when you're having fun.
8. Birds of a feather flock together.
9. Look before you leap.
10. Beauty is only skin deep.
11. Don't cry over spilled milk.
12. Cleanliness is next to Godliness.
13. Charity begins at home.
14. All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.
15. What a man laughs at reveals his character.
16. Experience is the best teacher.
17. Bring joy to others and you'll find it yourself.
18. You have only failed when you fail to try.
19. Believe in yourself and you will not fail.

## Famous Sayings of Abraham Lincoln

1. People are just as happy as they make up their minds to be.
2. Whatever you are, be a good one.
3. Freedom is the last, best hope of earth.
4. When I do good, I feel good. When I do bad, I feel bad. And that's my religion.
5. You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.
6. I don't like that man. I must get to know him better.
7. And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.
8. Books serve to show a man that those original thoughts of his aren't very new after all.
9. Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power.
10. You can fool some of the people all the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all the time.
11.I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts.

Example 2b. Using passages from reading book. Copying will be easier if students can read the words with ease and retain a word or phrase in working memory.

| \#letters | \#words | Hougton Mifflin Level 2: |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | Carmen taught herself to draw by |
| 27 | 6 | practicing every day. She would draw |
| 55 | 12 | whatever was in front of her - books, |
| 83 | 19 | cats, her left hand, her sisters and |
| 111 | 26 | Brothers, paper bags, flowers. Carmen |
| 142 | 31 | drew anything or anybody that would |
| 165 | 38 | stay still for a few minutes. |
| 191 | 44 | One painting may be a picture of |
| 219 | 51 | people dancing at a party. Another |
| 244 | 58 | may show Carmen and members of |
| 277 | 64 | her family picking fruit, celebrating a |
| 308 | 70 | birthday, or just getting together to |
| 332 | 76 | cook food. Sometimes, she even |
| 364 | 81 | includes the family cat, or a lizard she |
| 390 | 90 | might have seen crawling on the |
| 395 | 96 | porch. |
| 418 | 97 | Carmen's work has been shown |
| 446 | 102 | in museums all around the country. |
|  |  |  |

Example 3. Rubric for Papers

## HOW Should Your Papers Look?

## H = Heading

1. First and last name
2.Today's date
3.Subject
4.Page number if needed

## O = Organized

1. On the front side of the paper
2.Left margin
2. Right margin
3. At least one blank line at the top
4. At least one blank line at the bottom
6.Uniform spacing

## W = Written neatly

1. Words and numbers on the lines
2. Words and numbers written neatly
3. Neat erasing or crossing out

Skills for School Success, Curriculum Associates

## Example 4a. Spelling Dictation - Regular Words Word Dictation

## Dictation

a) Teacher says the word.
b) Teacher says the word in a sentence.
c) Students repeat the word.
d) Teacher and students put up one finger for each sound in the word. OR Teacher and students put up one finger for each part of the word.
e) Students say the sounds/parts to themselves as they write the word.

## Feedback

f) Teacher writes the word on the board or overhead. Students compare their word to model.
g) If a student has made an error, the student crosses out the word and rewrites the word.

## Sentence Dictation

## Dictation

a) Teacher says the entire sentence.
b) Students repeat the sentence.
c) Teacher dictates the first part of the sentence.
d) Students repeat the first part of the sentence.
e) Students write the first part of the sentence.
f) Teacher moves around the classroom and monitors student work.
g) Teacher dictates the second part of the sentence.
h) Students repeat the second part of the sentence.
i) Students write the second part of the sentence.
j) students reread their sentence and check the spelling of the words.
k) Teacher gives feedback on each word. Students awarded points for correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
The points are designed to make the students more interested in the task and more careful.
(Note: Students can write on paper or slates.)

## Example 4b: Partner Spelling Practice

## PARTNER SPELLING

| TUTOR | TUTEE |
| :--- | :--- |
| Takes out list of spelling words. |  |
| Says the word. <br> Asks tutee to repeat the word. <br> Says the word in a sentence if <br> needed. | Listens. <br> Repeats the word. |
| Asks tutee to write the word. | Writes the word. |
| Shows the word on card. | Looks at the word. <br> Checks the spelling of the word. |
|  | If the word is incorrect, <br> crosses out the word and rewrites <br> it. |

(Note: Students can write on paper or slates.)

## Example 5

## SPELLING RULES

## ADDING SUFFIXES

Double the Final Consonant
Double the final consonant of a word that ends with a single vowel and consonant before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel. (bat/batting)

Double the final consonant of a word that is accented on the final syllable and ends with a single vowel and consonant before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel. (omit/omitted)

## Words Ending in Silent e

Drop the final silent $e$ before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel. (bake/baking)

Keep the final silent $e$ when adding a suffix that begins with a consonant. (late/lateness)

## Words ending in $\boldsymbol{y}$

Change the $y$ to $i$ when adding a suffix to words that end in consonant $-y$, unless the suffix begins with $i$. (cry/cried)

Do not change the $y$ to $i$ when adding a suffix to words that end in vowel $-y$. (say/saying)

## PLURALS

Add $s$ to most nouns to form plurals. (animal/animals)
Add es to nouns that end with $s, s s, s h, c h$, or $x$. (kiss/kisses)
Change the y to $i$ and add es to nouns that end in consonant $-y$. (country/countries)

Add $s$ to nouns that end in vowel $-y$. (ray/rays)
Change the $f$ or fe to $v$ and add es to some nouns that end in $f$ or $f e$. (calf/calves)

Some nouns change their spellings to form the plural. (woman/women)
Some nouns are spelled the same for both singular and plural. (sheep)

## Example 6a. Example Lesson - Spelling Rule

| Setting | Fifth grade classroom |
| :---: | :---: |
| Step 1. | Introduce the rule. |
|  | We are going to learn a spelling rule about adding suffixes when the word ends in $e$. Listen to the rule. <br> When a word ends in a vowel-consonant-e and you want to add a suffix that begins with a vowel, drop the $e$. When a word ends in a vowel-consonant-e and you want to add a suffix that begins with a vowel, drop the $\qquad$ E. |
| Step 2. | Illustrate the rule with examples and non-examples. |
| Example ride + ing $=$ | Here I have the word ride and I want to add the suffix ing. Ride ends in a vowel-consonant-e (Teacher points to each letter i-de.), and the suffix ing begins with a vowel (Teacher points to the letter $i$ in ing.), so I drop the $e$. (Teacher crosses out the letter $e$ on ride and writes riding.) Everyone, spell riding. $R-i-d-i-n-g$. |
| Example fame + ous $=$ | I have the word fame and I want to add the suffix ous. Fame ends in a vowel-consonant-e (Teacher points to each letter a-me.), and the suffix ous begins with a vowel (Teacher points to the letter $o$ in ous), so I drop the $e$. (Teacher crosses out the letter $e$ on fame and writes famous.) Everyone, spell famous. F-$a-m$-o-u-s. |
| Example excite + ing $=$ | I have the word $\qquad$ excite and I want to add the suffix $\qquad$ ing. Excite ends in a vowel-consonant-e (Teacher points to each letter i-t-e.), and the suffix ing begins with a vowel (Teacher points to the letter $i$ in ing), so I drop the $e$. (Teacher crosses out the letter $e$ on excite and writes exciting.) Everyone, spell exciting. $E-x-c-i-t-i-n-g$. |
| Non-example excite + ment $=$ | I have the word $\qquad$ excite and I want to add the suffix $\qquad$ ment. Excite ends in a vowel-consonant-e (Teacher points to i-t-e.), but the suffix ment does NOT begin with a vowel, so I DO NOT drop the $e$. (Teacher writes excitement.) Everyone, spell excitement. $E-x-c-i-t-e-m-e-n-t$. |


| Step 3. | Guide students in analyzing examples and non-examples using the critical attributes. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Example use + ing = | Let's do some together. We have the word $\qquad$ use and we want to add the suffix $\qquad$ ing. Does use end with a vowel-consonant-e? Yes. Does ing begin with a vowel? Yes. Do we drop the $e$ ? Yes. Write the word using. (Teacher writes using on the overhead.) Check the spelling of using. (Pause.) Everyone, spell using. $U-s-i-n-g$. |
| Non-example use $+\mathbf{f u l}=$ | We have the word $\qquad$ use and we want to add the suffix $\qquad$ ful. Does use end with a vowel-consonant-e? Yes. Does the suffix ful begin with a vowel? No. Do we drop the $e$ ? No. Write useful. (Teacher writes useful on the overhead.) Check the spelling of useful. (Pause.) Everyone, spell useful. U-s-e-f-u-l. |
| Non-example see + ing $=$ | We have the word $\qquad$ see and we want to add the suffix $\qquad$ ing. Does see end with a vowel-consonant-e? No. Do we drop the $e$ ? No. Write seeing. (Teacher writes seeing on the overhead.) Check the spelling of seeing. (Pause.) Everyone, spell seeing. $S-e-e-i-n-g$. |
| Example race + ist $=$ | (The teacher guides students in the analysis of these words using the same wording.) |
| Example pure + ity $=$ |  |
| Step 4. | Check students' understanding using examples and nonexamples. |
| Example slice + ing $=$ | Now, it is your turn. Here is the word $\qquad$ slice and we want to add the suffix ing. Write slicing. (Teacher monitors.) <br> (When students are done, the teacher provides feedback.) Does slice end with a vowel-consonant-e? Yes. Does ing begin with a vowel? Yes. Do we drop the $e$ ? Yes. (Teacher writes slicing on the overhead.) Check the spelling of slicing. (Pause.) Everyone, spell slicing. $S-l-i-c-i-n-g$. |

$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|}\hline & \\ \hline \begin{array}{l}\text { Non-example } \\ \text { shame }+ \text { ful }=\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Here is the word } \\ \text { ful. Write shameful. (Teacher monitors.) }\end{array} \\ \text { (When students are done, the teacher provides feedback.) Does } \\ \text { shame end with a vowel-consonant-e? Yes. Does ful begin with } \\ \text { a vowel? No. Do we drop the } e \text { ? No. (Teacher writes shameful } \\ \text { on the overhead.) Check the spelling of shameful. (Pause.) } \\ \text { Everyone, spell shameful. S-h-a-m-e-f-u-l. }\end{array}\right\}$

## Example 6b. Lesson on Spelling Rule

| Setting | $4^{\text {th }}$ Grade Classroom |
| :---: | :---: |
| Step 1. | Introduce the rule. |
|  | We are going to learn a spelling rule about adding suffixes when the root word ends in $y$. Listen to the rule. When a word ends in a consonant-y, change the $y$ to $i$ before adding any suffix other than ing. |
| Step 2. | Illustrate the rule with examples and non-examples. |
| Example cry + ed = | I have the word cry and I want to add the suffix ed. Cry ends in a consonant-y (Teacher points to the letters $r$ and $y$.), and I'm adding a suffix other than ing (Teacher points to $e d$.), so I change the $y$ to $i$. (Teacher crosses out the letter $y$ and writes an $i$ above it, and then writes cried.) Everyone, spell cried. C-r-i-e-d. |
| Example copy + ed = | I have the word copy and I want to add the suffix ed. Copy ends in a consonant-y (Teacher points to the letters $p$ and $y$.), and I'm adding a suffix other than ing (Teacher points to $e d$ ), so I change the $y$ to $i$. (Teacher crosses out the letter $y$ and writes an $i$ above it and then writes copied.) Everyone, spell copied. $C-o-p-i-e-d$. |
| Non-example copy + ing $=$ | I have the word copy and I want to add the suffix ing. Copy ends in a consonant-y (Teacher points to the letters $p$ and $y$.), but I'm adding the suffix ing (Teacher points to ing), so I do NOT change the $y$ to $i$. (Teacher writes copying.) Everyone, spell copying. C-o-p-y-i-n-g. |
| Non-Example cry $+=$ ing | I have the word cry and I want to add the suffix ing. Cry ends in a consonant- $y$ (Teacher points to the letters $r$ and $y$.), but I'm adding the suffix ing (Teacher points to ing), so I do NOT change the $y$ to $i$. (Teacher writes crying.) Everyone, spell crying. C-r-y-i-n-g. |
| Example pacify + ist = | Here is the word pacify and I want to add the suffix ist. Pacify ends in a consonant- $y$ (Teacher points to the letters $f$ and $y$.), and I'm adding a suffix other than ing (Teacher points to ist), so I change the $y$ to an $i$. (Teacher crosses out the letter $y$ and writes an $i$ above it and then writes pacifist with two is.) Before you spell pacifist, look. When I'm left with two is, I just keep one of them. (Teacher crosses off one i.) Everyone, spell pacifist. $P-a-c-i-f-i-s-t$. |
| Non-Example play + er = | Here is the word play and I want to add the suffix er. Play ends in a VOWEL-y. (Teacher points to the letters $a$ and $y$.) Play does not end with a consonant- $y$, so I don't change the $y$ to an $i$. (Teacher writes player.) Everyone, spell player. $P-l-a-y-e-r .$ |


| Step 3. | Guide students in analyzing examples and non-examples using the critical attributes. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Example study + ed = | Let's spell some words together. We have the word study and we want to add the suffix ed. Does study end in a consonant-y? Yes. Am I adding a suffix other than ing? Yes. Do we change the $y$ to $i$ ? Yes. Write studied. Put your pencil down to show me that you are done. (Teacher monitors. When students are done, the teacher writes studied on the board.) Check your spelling. If you missed the word, cross it out and rewrite it. (Pause.) Spell studied. $S-t-u-d-i-e-d$. |
| Non-example stay + ed = | We have the word stay and we want to add the suffix ed. Does stay end in a consonant-y? No. Do we change the $y$ to $i$ ? No. Write stayed. Put your pencil down to show me that you are done. (Teacher monitors. When students are done, the teacher writes stayed on the board.) Check your spelling. If you missed the word, cross it out and rewrite it. (Pause.) Spell stayed. $S-t-a-y-e-d$. |
| Example funny + est $=$ | We have the word $\qquad$ funny and we want to add the suffix $\qquad$ est. Does funny end with a consonant-y? Yes. Are we adding a suffix other than ing? Yes. Do we change the $y$ to $i$ ? Yes. Write funniest. Put your pencil down to show me that you are done. (Teacher monitors. When students are done, the teacher writes funniest on the board.) Check your spelling. If you missed the word, cross it out and rewrite it. (Pause.) Spell funniest. $F-u-n-n-i-e-s-t$. |
| Example happy + ness $=$ | (The teacher guides students in the analysis of these words using the same wording.) |
| Example accompany + ment $=$ |  |
| Non-example accompany + $\text { ing }=$ |  |
| Example accompany + ist $=$ |  |
| Example vary + ance |  |
| Non-example vary +ing |  |


| Step 4. | Check students' understanding using examples and non-examples. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Example mighty+ er= | Now, it is your turn. Here is the word $\qquad$ mighty and we want to add the suffix $\qquad$ er. Write mightier. (Teacher monitors.) <br> (When students are done, the teacher provides feedback.) Does mighty end with a consonant-y? Yes. Are we adding a suffix other than ing? Yes. Do we change the $y$ to $i$ ? Yes. (Teacher writes mightier on the board.) Check the spelling of mightier. (Pause.) Everyone, spell mightier. <br> M-i-g-h-t-i-e-r. |
| Non-example replay + ed = | This word is $\qquad$ replay and we want to add the suffix $\qquad$ ed. Write replayed. (Teacher monitors.) <br> (When students are done, the teacher provides feedback.) Does replay end with a consonant-y? No. Do we change the $y$ to $i$ ? No. <br> (Teacher writes replayed on the board.) Check the spelling of replayed. <br> (Pause.) Everyone, spell replayed. $R-e-p-l-a-y-e-d$. |
| Example envy + ous = | (The teacher continues with additional examples and non-examples, providing instructional feedback. Notice that the teacher provides feedback after EACH item rather than after all six to promote accuracy.) |
| Non-example envy + ing = |  |
| Non-example enjoy + ed = |  |
| Example apply + ed |  |
| Non-example apply + ing |  |
| Example apply + ance $=$ |  |

## Example 7. High Frequency Words

(Circle the words that are high frequency
AND irregular.)

|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. the | 21. be | 41. which | 61. into |
| 2. of | 22. this | 42. their | 62. has |
| 3. and | 23. from | 43. said | 63. more |
| 4. a | 24. | 44. | 64. |
| 5. to | 25. have | 45. do | 65. two |
| 6. in | 26. or | 46. will | 66. like |
| 7. is | 27. by | 47. each | 67. him |
| 8. you | 28. one | 48.about | 68. see |
| 9. that | 29. had | 49. how | 69. time |
| 10. it | 30. not | 50. up | 70. could |
| 11. he | 31. but | 51. out | 71. no |
| 12. for | 32. what | 52. them | 72. make |
| 13. was | 33. all | 53. then | 73. than |
| 14. on | 34. were | 54. she | 74. first |
| 15. are | 35. when | 55. many | 75. been |
| 16. as | 36. we | 56. some | 76. its |
| 17. with | 37. there | 57. so | 77. who |
| 18. his | 38. can | 58. these | 78. now |
| 19. they | 39. an | 5. would | 79.people |
| 20. at | 40. your | 60. other | 80. my |


| 81. made | 101. get | 121. another | 141. again |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 82. over | 102. through | 122. came | 142. off |
| 83. did | 103. back | 123. come | 143. went |
| 84. down | 104. much | 124. work | 144. old |
| 85. only | 105. go | 125. three | 145. number |
| 86. way | 106. good | 126. must | 146. great |
| 87. find | 107. new | 127. because | 147. tell |
| 88. use | 108. write | 128. does | 148. men |
| 89. may | 109. our | 129. part | 149. say |
| 90. water | 110. me | 130. even | 150. small |
| 91. long | 111. man | 131. place | 151. every |
| 92. little | 112. too | 132. well | 152. found |
| 93. very | 113. any | 133. such | 153. still |
| 94. after | 114. day | 134. here | 154.between |
| 95. words | 115. same | 135. take | 155. mane |
| 96. called | 116. right | 136. why | 156. should |
| 97. just | 117. look | 137. help | 157. home |
| 98. where | 118. think | 138. put | 158. big |
| 99. most | 119. also | 139. different | 159. give |
| 100. know | 120. around | 140. away | 160. air |


| 161. line | 181. few | 201. feet | 221. need |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 162. set | 182. those | 202. land | 222. far |
| 163. own | 183. always | 203. side | 223. hand |
| 164. under | 184. show | 204.without | 224. high |
| 165. read | 185. large | 205. boy | 225. year |
| 166. last | 186. often | 206. once | 226. mother |
| 167. never | 187.together | 207.animal | 227. light |
| 168. us | 188. asked | 208. life | 228.country |
| 169. left | 189. house | 209.enough | 229. father |
| 170. end | 190. don't | 210. took | 230. let |
| 171. along | 191. world | 211. four | 231. night |
| 172. while | 192. going | 212. head | 232. picture |
| 173. might | 193. want | 213. above | 233. being |
| 174. next | 194. school | 214. kind | 234. study |
| 175. sound | 195.important | 215. began | 235. second |
| 176. below | 196. until | 216. almost | 236. soon |
| 177. saw | 197. form | 217. live | 237. story |
| 178. | 198. food | 218. page | 238. since |
| something | 199. keep | 219. got | 239. white |
| 179. thought | 200. children | 220. earth | 240. ever |
| 180. both |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## Example 8. Independent Spelling Strategies

## Spelling a Word

1. Look and Copy
(Look for the word. Copy the word.)
2. Spelling a short word
a. Say the sounds slowly.
b. Write the letters.
c. Look at the word. Does it look like the word?

Spelling a longer word
a. Say the parts of the word.
b. Write the parts. Use the sounds, prefixes, and suffixes. Use the rules for combining parts.
c. Look at the word. Does it look like the word?
3. Ask someone how to spell the word.
a. Ask your partner
b. Ask the teacher.
(If your teacher is not near, underline the word. Keep writing. When your teacher is near, ask for the spelling of the word.)

## 4. Look up the word

(Use a glossary, dictionary, or electronic source.)
5. Try another word.

## Example 9. Sentence Expansion

## Sentence Expanding

Goal: The students will be able to expand his/her sentences by adding words or phrases that answer the questions what, where, when, how, and why.

| Who | Action | What |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| My friends | watched | a movie. |

1. Introduce the sentence and discuss parts of the sentence.
a. Point out that this sentence has three parts: who-action-what.
b. Read the parts of the example sentence with your students.
2. Have students create alternative sentences using the example sentence.
a. Have students fold a paper into three columns and label the columns: who-action-what.
b. Next have the student copy the example sentence, placing the parts of the sentence under who-action-what.
c. Then have the students copy the who (my friends) and action (watched) on the next line but add a new what.
d. Have students repeat this until you indicate that they should stop. Move around the room and carefully monitor students' work providing feedback on sentence structure, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.

A student's paper might look like this.

| Example Student Paper |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Who | Action | What |
| My friends | watched | a movie. |
| My friends | watched | zoo animals. |
| My friends | watched | a small dog. |
| My friends | watched | a video. |
| My friends | watched | television. |

3. Have students reread and proofread their sentences.
a. Direct students to read their sentences by touching each word, whisper-reading the words, and asking if the sentence makes sense.
b. Direct students to check that the sentence is marked for the reader with a capital and a period.
4. Have students share their sentences.
a. Ask students to read their sentences to their partners.
b. Then call on individual students to read their "best" sentence to the class.
5. If time permits, have students create additional sentences with different sentence stems.
a. On the board or overhead, write sentence stems. Ones similar to these can be used. Of course, use of students' names will increase their interest.

| Additional sentence stems |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Who | Action | What |
| Max | created |  |
| Ms. Jones | lifted |  |
| Pauline | drew |  |
| Thomas | fixed |  |
| Mr. King | baked |  |
| The children | cleaned |  |

Depending on the performance of your students, you may wish to spend two, three days or more on a sentence pattern before moving to additional sentence patterns.

On subsequent days, repeat the six instructional steps with other sentence stems.

Below are sentence stems that can be used on subsequent days.

| Example Sentence \#2 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| What | Action | Where |
| The small goldfish | swam | across the fishbowl. |
| The small goldfish | swam |  |
| Additional Sentence Stems |  |  |
| A baby colt | trotted |  |
| The huge elephant | wandered |  |
| The red car | stopped |  |
| A black crow | landed |  |
| The squirrel | scampered |  |
| The lion | napped |  |
| The children's ball | rolled. |  |


| Example Sentence \#3 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| When <br> Early in the <br> morning an airplane $_{\text {an airplane }}$ | landed | in the field. |  |
|  | landed |  |  |
|  | Additional Sentence Stems |  |  |
|  | the river | flowed |  |
|  | the small bunnies | hopped |  |
|  | two kittens | leaped |  |
|  | a hummingbird <br> a flock of <br> seagulls | flew |  |
|  | a rattlesnake | hinded |  |
|  | tulips | blossomed |  |


| Example Sentence \#4 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| What | Action | How | Where |
| Two dogs | ran | quickly | into the house. |
| Two dogs | ran |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| The tractor | Additional Sentence Stems |  |  |
| The airplane | moved |  |  |
| The tiny ball | flew |  |  |
| A baby robin | ated |  |  |
| The earthquake | shook |  |  |
| The stray dog | barked |  |  |


| Example Sentence \#5 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| When | Who | Action | What |
| Today in music <br> class | we | learned | a new song. |
| we |  |  |  |
|  | Additional Sentence Stems |  |  |
|  | the girls | played |  |
|  | I | wrote |  |
|  | Mr. Hendricks | painted |  |
|  | the pilot | flew |  |
|  | the class | completed |  |
|  | a jazz band | played |  |
|  | we | cleaned |  |
|  |  |  |  |

(Based on sequence in Step Up to Writing, Sopris)

Example 10. Sentence Combining
(Examples taken from REWARDS Writing - Sentence Refinement published by Sopris)
1.

Start: Linda grabbed a seat.
Add: Bobby grabbed a seat.
Add: The seats were adjoining.
Add: $\quad$ The seats were on the bus.
Add: The bus was crowded.
Create: $\qquad$
2.

Start: As the cubs grow fur, they spend periods of time outside the den.

Add: $\quad$ The fur is thicker.
Add: $\quad$ The periods of time are short.
Add: The den is warm.
Add: $\quad$ The den is protective.
Create: $\qquad$
3.

Start: Jared will finish shopping for school supplies.
Add: He will shop this afternoon.
Add: He will shop at the mall.
Create:
4.

Start: Everyone ate birthday cake.
Add: The birthday cake was chocolate.
Add: Everyone ate vanilla ice cream.
Add: Everyone ate candy.
Create:
5.

Start: Porcupine caribou are large mammals.
Add: Porcupine caribou are hoofed mammals.
Add: They live in northern Canada.
Add: They live in eastern Alaska.
(Use that to make one sentence.)
Create:

Example 11: Sequence for combining sentences in primary grades

## 1. Join two or more subjects.

Start: Mark ran home.
Add: Peter ran home.
Create: Mark and Peter ran home.
Start: Sally went to the movies.
Add: Maria went to the movies.
Add: Jane went to the movies.
Create: Sally, Maria, and Jane went to the movies.
Start:
Add:
Create:
2. Join two or more verbs.

Start: Tom washed the dishes.
Add: Tom dried the dishes.
Create: Tom washed and dried the dishes.
Start: Mrs. Smith determined an objective.
Add: Mrs. Smith wrote a lesson plan.
Add: Mrs. Smith developed examples.
Create: Mrs. Smith determined an objective, wrote a lesson plan, and developed examples.

Start:
Add:
Create:

## 3. Join two or more predicate adjectives.

Start: Margaret is charming.
Add: Margaret is intelligent.
Create: Margaret is intelligent and charming.
Start: Jeff's apartment is small.
Add: Jeff's apartment is comfortable.
Create: Jeff's apartment is small and comfortable. Jeff's apartment is small but comfortable.

Start:
Add:
Create:

## 4. Join two or more direct objects.

Start: The talented musician can play the piano.
Add: $\quad$ The talented musician can play the cello.
Create: The talented musician can play piano and cello.
Start: My sister wanted a new dress for the first day of school.
Add: $\quad$ My sister wanted a purse for the first day of school.
Add: $\quad$ My sister wanted boots for the first day of school.
Create: My sister wanted a new dress, a purse, and boots for the first day of school.

Start:
Add:
Create:

## 5. Join two or more adjectives.

Start: A tiny doll sat on the shelf.
Add: A beautiful doll sat on the shelf.
Create: A tiny, beautiful doll sat on the shelf.
Start: A tiny doll sat on the shelf.
Add: A baby doll sat on the shelf.
Create: A tiny baby doll sat on the shelf.
Start:
Add:
Create:

## Example 12a Rule Lesson - Punctuation

| Setting | Sixth Grade Writing Class <br> (Adapted from: REWARDS WRITING: Sentence <br> Refinement (2008), published by Sopris West). |
| :--- | :--- |
| Step 1. | Introduce the rule. <br> we have going to learn when to add commas when <br> Here's the rule: Separate three or more items in a <br> Hems in a sentence. <br> series by adding a comma after each item except <br> the last one. |
|  | Illustrate the rule with examples and non- <br> examples. |
| Step 2. | Read the sentence with me: Jose, Jenny, and <br> Marcus learned about different breeds of dogs. <br> about different breeds of dogs. <br> Here we have a series: Jose, Jenny, and Marcus. <br> (Teacher underlines Jose, Jenny, and Marcus.) <br> There are three items in the series. We separate <br> the items by putting a comma after each item <br> except the last one. (Teacher points to the <br> commas after Jose and Jenny.) |
| Dachshunds, greyhounds, and <br> beagles are hound breeds. | Read the sentence with me: Dachshunds, <br> greyhounds, and beagles are hound breeds. <br> Here we have a series: dachshunds, greyhounds, <br> and beagles. (Teacher underlines dachshunds, <br> greyhounds, and beagles.) There are three items <br> in the series. We separate the items by putting a <br> comma after each item except the last one. <br> (Teacher points to the commas after dachshunds <br> and greyhounds.) |
| Pekingese and toy poodles are |  |
| types of toy dogs. | Read the sentence with me: Pekingese and toy <br> poodles are types of toy dogs. Here we have a <br> series: pekingese and toy poodles. (Teacher <br> underlines pekingese and toy poodles.) However, <br> there are only two items in the series, so we don't <br> separate them with commas. |


| The children sat quietly listened <br> to the story and laughed. | Read the sentence with me: The children sat <br> quietly listened to the story and laughed. Here <br> we have a series: sat quietly, listened to the story, <br> and laughed. (Teacher underlines sat quietly, <br> listened to the story, and laughed.) There are three <br> items in the series. We separate the items by <br> putting a comma after each item except the last <br> one. (Teacher points to the commas after 'sat <br> quietly' and 'listened to the story'.) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Step 3. | Guide students in analyzing examples and non- <br> examples using the critical attributes. |
| Megan Joshua and Andrew go to <br> the same school. | Read the sentence with me: Megan Joshua and <br> Andrew go to the same school. Is there a series <br> of items? Yes. Ones, tell your partners the items <br> in the series. (Teacher calls on a student.) What <br> are the items in the series? Megan, Joshua, and <br> Andrew. (Teacher underlines Megan, Joshua, and <br> Andrew.) Are there three or more items in the |
| series? Yes. Do we separate the items with |  |
| commas? Yes. Do I put a comma after Megan? |  |
| Yes. Do I put a comma after Joshua? Yes. Do I put |  |
| a comma after Andrew? No. (Teacher writes in |  |
| commas.) |  |$|$


|  | writing stories, and completing science <br> experiments. (Teacher underlines reading books, <br> painting pictures, writing stories, and completing <br> science experiments.) Are there three or more <br> items in the series? Yes. Do we separate the items <br> with commas? Yes. Do I put a comma after <br> books? Yes. Do I put a comma after pictures? Yes. <br> After stories? Yes. After experiments? No. <br> (Teacher writes in commas.) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Step 4. | Check students' understanding using examples <br> and non-examples. |
| Joshua enjoys investigating <br> historical events and solving <br> math problems. | Read the sentence with me: Joshua enjoys <br> investigating historical events and solving <br> math problems. Now, underline the items in the <br> series, and add commas if necessary. (Teacher <br> monitors.) Ones, explain your answer to your <br> partner. Twos, if you disagree, explain your <br> answer. (Teacher monitors and then calls on a <br> student.) There is a series of two items: <br> investigating historical events and solving math <br> problems. There are only two items in the series, <br> so no commas are needed. |
| Each student must have many <br> school supplies including a <br> notebok notebook paper two <br> pencils two pens a yearly <br> calendar a ruler and one art <br> tablet. | Read the sentence with me: Each student must <br> have many school supplies including a <br> notebook notebook paper two pencils two pens <br> a yearly calendar a ruler and one art tablet. <br> Now, underline the items in the series, and add <br> commas if necessary. (Teacher monitors.) Twos, <br> explain your answer to your partner. Ones, if you <br> disagree, explain your answer. (Teacher monitors <br> and calls on a student.) There is a series of seven <br> items: a notebook, notebook paper, two pencils, <br> two pens, a yearly calendar, a ruler, and one art <br> tablet. I put a comma after each item BUT not <br> after tablet. |

## Example 12b Rule Lesson - Punctuation

| Setting | Eighth Grade Resource Room <br> (Adapted from: REWARDS WRITING: Sentence <br> Refinement (2008), published by Sopris West. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Step 1. | Introduce the rule. |
|  | We are going to learn how to separate adjectives using <br> commas. Here is the rule: Use a comma to separate two or <br> more adjectives, except when the last adjective is <br> considered part of the noun. Use this test: If "and" makes <br> sense between the two adjectives, add a comma. |
| Step 2. | Illustrate the rule with examples and non-examples. |
| famous movie star | Read the words with me: famous movie star. Famous and <br> movie are adjectives that tell about star. However, movie is <br> part of the noun. We often say movie star. We do not <br> separate famous and movie with a comma. To be sure, we <br> use the "and" test. 'Famous and movie star' does not make <br> sense, so we do not use a comma. |
| mysterious, twinkling star | Read the words with me: mysterious, twinkling star. <br> Mysterious and twinkling are adjectives that tell about star. <br> Twinkling is not part of the noun. We don't often say <br> twinkling star. We need to separate mysterious and <br> twinkling with a comma. To be sure, we use the "and" test. <br> 'Mysterious and twinkling star' does make sense, so we use <br> a comma to separate the two adjectives. |
| small living room | Read the words: small living room. Small and living are <br> adjectives that tell about the room. Living is part of the <br> noun. We often say living room. We do not separate small <br> and living with a comma. To be sure, we use the "and" test. <br> 'Small and living room' does not make sense, so we do not <br> use a comma. |
| small, dark bedroom | Read the words: small dark bedroom. Small and dark are <br> adjectives that tell about the bedroom. Dark is not part of <br> the noun. We need to separate small and dark with a <br> comma. To be sure, we use the "and" test. 'Small and dark <br> bedroom' does make sense, so we use a comma to separate <br> the two adjectives. |


| Step 3. | Guide students in analyzing examples and non-examples <br> using the critical attributes. |
| :--- | :--- |
| yellow school bus | Read the words with me: yellow school bus. What <br> adjectives tell about the bus? Yellow and school. Is school <br> part of the noun? Yes. That's right, we often say "school <br> bus." Should we separate yellow and school with a comma? <br> No. Let's use the "and" test. Does "yellow and school bus" <br> make sense? No. So, we do not use a comma. |
| dirty broken-down bus | Read the words with me: dirty broken-down bus. What <br> adjectives tell about the bus? Dirty and broken down. Is <br> broken-down part of the noun? No. Right, we don't often <br> say "broken-down bus." Should we separate dirty and <br> broken-down with a comma? Yes. Let's use the "and" test. <br> Does dirty and broken-down bus" make sense? Yes. So, we <br> do not use a comma. |
| courteous store clerk | (Teacher continues with guided practice using parallel <br> wording on all examples and non-examples. |
| powerful back legs | powerful, muscular legs |
| hot, steaming cocoa | To clarify the examples and non-examples, we have added <br> the punctuation. However, the items would be presented to <br> students with no commas.) |
| steaming hot chocolate |  |
| loud rock music | loud, energetic music |
| Step 4. | Check students' understanding using examples and <br> non-examples. |
| delicious sweet cream | Read the words with me: delicious sweet cream. Think <br> about whether to add a comma. (Pause.) Should we add a <br> comma? Yes. Ones, explain your answer to your partner. <br> (Teacher calls on a student.) Sweet is not a part of the noun. <br> Thus, you need to separate delicious and sweet with a <br> comma. Also, it makes sense to say 'delicious and sweet <br> cream', so a comma is needed. |
| delicious ice cream | Read the words with me: delicious ice cream. Think about <br> whether to add a comma. (Pause). Should we add a comma? <br> No. Twos, explain your answer to your partner. (Teacher <br> calls on a student.) Ice is part of the noun. We often say ice <br> cream. We should not separate delicious and ice with a <br> comma. It doesn't make sense to say delicious and ice <br> cream. |


| long fur coat | (Teacher continues checking understanding with remaining |
| :--- | :--- |
| long, black coat | items. Please Note: To clarify the examples and non- |
| tiny log cabin | examples, we have added the punctuation. However, the |
| tiny, brown cabin |  |
| marvelous, blue opal |  |
| helpful flight attendant |  |

