

## Writing: Lesson 25

Today the students will be learning how to write the “I” paragraph for an informative/explanatory essay. The introduction paragraph is three simple sentences and it is set up exactly the same way they were taught in Section 1.

1. Remind students that the I paragraph should be kept short and simple. Today we will review the 3 sentences that make up the I paragraph. Write the following on the board:

### I Paragraph

1. Hook
  2. 3 Reasons/Topics
  3. Closing Statement
2. (Review) – Go over this with students to remind them of what they learned in Section 1 of the curriculum.

*Let’s start with the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence. This is called your hook. This is where you want to “hook” your reader and catch their attention. If you start with a boring sentence, your reader is not going to be interested. There are many different types of hooks you can use when writing an informative/explanatory essay.*

3. Write on board:

Different Types of Hooks for Explanatory/Informative Writing–

1. Question
  2. Restate the prompt
  3. Statement about the topic
4. Let’s take a look at the passages about polar bears and leopards that we read the other day.

*The following passages will be used in this lesson:*

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>All About Polar Bears</b><br/><b>All About Leopards</b></p> |
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*After reading the passages, think about what you learned about polar bears and leopards. Now write to inform your reader about these animals.*

5. Look at the prompt and review the different ways to write a hook. Remind them that you can ask a question in many different ways.

### Examples:

- Did you know that polar bears and leopards are very interesting animals?
- How much do you really know about polar bears and leopards?

6. We could also restate the prompt in a different way.

Examples:

- There are many things to learn about polar bears and leopards.
- Polar bears and leopards are interesting animals that do many different things.

7. Or you could just make a simple statement about the topic you are about to write about.

Examples:

- Polar bears and leopards are very interesting.
- Polar bears and leopards are amazing!

Take a look at our planning for the prompt

## I Animals

**T1** Polar Bears - Live a. sea ice b. babies

**T2** Leopards- Look a. size b. color

**T3** Leopards - Hunt a. skills b. prey

## C Animals

\*\*\*When writing the I paragraph, make sure you are color coding each sentence. For example, write the hook in red, the 3 topics in blue, and the closing sentence in green (*choose any colors*). This way they can see the 3 parts of the I paragraph.

8. Which hook do you want to use? (*pick one as a class and write on the board or document camera*)
9. Now the next sentence for I is “3 Topics.” For explanatory/informative prompts they are not reasons, they are topics. So this is where you state your 3 topics. What are our 3 topics? (they should answer – how polar bears live, the way leopards look, and how leopards hunt)
10. So our 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence will look something like this – ***Some interesting things about these animals are how polar bears live, the way leopards look and how leopards hunt.***
11. Let’s look at our last sentence. This is called our closing statement. This is just a general statement about your topic. For this sentence you can also take words/sentences from the passages...just make sure you put it in your own words (do not copy word for word). Let me give you some examples:

- These animals have interesting lives!
- Polar bears and leopards are amazing animals!

12. So as a class, let’s decide what our closing statement is going to be.

13. Now let’s put it all together and check it.

- Do we have a hook?
- Did we state our 3 topics?
- Do we have a closing statement?

Here is an example of what your final I paragraph should look like:

*There are many things to learn about polar bears and leopards. Some interesting things about these animals are how polar bears live, the way leopards look and how leopards hunt. These animals have interesting lives!*

14. Let's do one more example together and then you try one on your own.
15. Hand out I paragraph worksheet titled “model/work together” in the left hand corner.
16. As a class, work together to plan and come up with an I paragraph. Make sure you color code the 3 parts.
17. Then have students work on the next I paragraph worksheet titled “guided practice.”
18. Assist students through planning and writing the I paragraph (as needed) for this prompt.

Writing: Lesson 25  
Model/Work Together

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

“I” Paragraph

The following passages will be used for this activity:

**Buzzing Bees**  
**All About Dragonflies**

Your teacher has asked that you write a paper about bees and dragonflies. Write an explanatory essay about bees and dragonflies. Your essay must be based on ideas and information from the passages.

I \_\_\_\_\_

T1 \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

T2 \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

T3 \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_

**Now write the I paragraph:**

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**Writing: Lesson 25**  
Guided Practice

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**“I” Paragraph**

*The following passages will be used for this activity:*

**Ice Skating**  
**What is Soccer?**

*Write an informative essay about ice skating and soccer. Use information from the passages in your essay.*

I \_\_\_\_\_

T1 \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

T2 \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

T3 \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_

**Now write the I paragraph:**

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## All About Polar Bears 630



- 1 Polar Bears are animals that are able to survive strong winters. They have oily thick fur that is able to absorb water.
- 2 Polar Bears live on sea ice in the cold Arctic. Living on the sea ice allows the polar bears to have ways to hunt. The sea ice is used to hide under. They sneak up on their food to eat. The bears look through holes in the ice to see their food. There are many foods to eat for bears, but one favorite food to eat is seals.
- 3 Around the age of five, polar bear cubs are able to have babies. The babies are kept in a cave. The cave is dug in the snow as a hideout for the cubs. The baby cubs are very small. The babies are born the size of baby rats. The cubs stay inside of their cave in winter. The baby cubs come out of their cave for the spring.

“All About Polar Bears” written for educational purposes.

## All About Leopards 620



- 4 Leopards are known as graceful and powerful big cats. They can be found in different parts of Africa. Many populations are endangered.
- 5 Leopards are between two to three feet tall. They can weigh up to 200 pounds. Leopards have a few different colors. They can be a pale yellow color. They can even be a deep golden color. There are even some leopards that are black.
- 6 Leopards have strong hunting skills they use to catch food. They are able to use their coats to blend in with their surroundings. When leopards spot a prey, they usually creep up very slowly on their prey. Once the prey is spotted they then leap into action. The leopards are able to run at such fast speed. The leopard is able to catch and attack its prey. Leopards have strong climbing skills. Often leopards use the trees as another way to attack their prey.

“All About Leopards” written for educational purposes.

## **Buzzing Bees** 580



- 1 Many people are scared of bees! They think bees are just there to sting them. Did you know that bees are very important for our environment? They make honey and also help flowers reproduce!
- 2 Bees drink nectar for their food. They fly from flower to flower drinking nectar. Bees have a special tongue. It is like a straw that sucks the nectar out of the flower. Then they store the nectar in their throat. Bees take the nectar back to their hive. They turn it into honey.
- 3 Bees have another job. They help flowers reproduce. They collect pollen on their bodies as they sip nectar. When they fly from one flower to another, they take the pollen with them. The pollen falls off their bodies onto the next flower. This is how new flowers are made!
- 4 Bees have to work together in their hive. The queen bee lays all of the eggs. The rest of the bees have other jobs. Some help make the honey and others collect the nectar for the hive. So next time you see a bee, don't be scared! Remember it has many important jobs to do.

*"Buzzing Bees" written for educational purposes*



## All About Dragonflies <sup>580</sup>



- 5 Have you ever had a dragonfly land on your head? That is considered good luck! Dragonflies are beautiful insects. They have been on Earth for millions of years. They have been on this planet longer than the dinosaurs.
- 6 Dragonflies are always on the move. They have long wings that help them move. Their bodies move like helicopters. They can even go as fast as 20 miles per hour!
- 7 If they don't keep moving, a predator may try to eat them. Dragonflies look for other insects to eat as their prey. They like to eat mosquitoes. They can eat hundreds of mosquitoes a day!
- 8 You can find dragonflies living near bodies of water. You might often see them early in the morning when the sun comes up. Dragonflies like to stay in the sun to keep warm. They can also produce their own heat. They do this by flapping their wings. These busy creatures help keep our water safe. They eat pesky bugs that could harm our environment.

*"All About Dragonflies" written for educational purposes*

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## Ice Skating <sup>550</sup>

- 1 Ice skating is a sport that has existed for more than 3,000 years. They were first developed by using bone. A flattened bone was tied to the bottom of the feet. The flat bone helped people to glide along the ice. Today we have ice skates with sharp iron blades. Sharp iron blades are on the bottom of skates.
- 2 Ice skating is used in different sports. Figure skating is commonly seen on TV. In figure skating people use skates on ice. Figure skating allows people to spin and jump on ice.
- 3 Speed skating is another form of ice skating. Teams compete with each other to race. It can be done in long, short and marathons.
- 4 Ringette is another form of ice skating. It can be played inside or outside. Two teams race to get a ring into their team's goal.
- 5 Ice hockey is a sport that uses ice skating. The two teams race on ice. The goal is to try and get their ice puck into the other team's goal.

"Ice Skating" written for educational purposes.



## What is Soccer? 610



- 6 Soccer is one of the most popular sports played all around the world. Soccer is a great sport to help learn new things. Children learn how to come up with strategies. They learn how to work as a team and how to set a goal to win. For soccer there are two teams of eleven. When you are playing soccer, make sure to not touch the soccer ball with your hand. Only the goalie can touch the ball. The ball should be kicked using your foot during the game. Share the ball with your team when playing the game. The goal should be reached as a team.
- 7 Soccer is a sport that can be played at the park. Kids can play the game in their own yard at home. You may even see kids playing soccer at school. Soccer is a sport that not much is needed to have lots of fun with friends.

“What is Soccer?” written for educational purposes.