

Writing: Lesson 27

Today the students will practice writing their three middle paragraphs for an informative/explanatory essay. The three middle paragraphs will have about 7 sentences each: Topic sentence, 3-4 sentences about A, and 3-4 sentences about B.

- Let's start with the example we used yesterday from the two passages about Florida:

Florida Today: The Sunshine State
Florida's Farming

PROMPT - *After reading the articles, think about what you learned about Florida. Now write to inform your reader about Florida.*

- We will use the same plan. (Write plan on board.)

I Florida

T1 Lifestyle

a. Weather

b. Beach Life

T2 Disney World

a. Parks

b. Additional Fun

T3 Farming

a. Florida Crops

b. How To

C Florida

- Now using the document camera, begin to write the essay.
- Remember, each middle paragraph will have about 7 sentences: Topic sentence, 3-4 sentences about A, and 3-4 sentences about B
- Starting with I, ask the students what we write in this paragraph. They should answer: ***hook, 3 reasons/topics, and closing sentence.***
- Write the I paragraph (color code).

Example:

Have you ever been to Florida? *Florida is a great place to live because of the comfortable lifestyle people have, Disney World, and the farming.* *Florida has so much to offer!*

**When modeling the T1, T2, and T3 paragraphs, we are going to color code the sentences. Your T sentence will be in one color, your 3-4 sentences about A will be in another color, and your 3-4 sentences about B will be in third color. Please make sure you always color code.

7. Now we move on to T1. The first sentence is called our Topic sentence. This is where you tell your reader what the topic is going to be for the paragraph. Our first topic is going to be about the Florida lifestyle. Our sentence will read: ***First, Florida is a great place to live because of the lifestyle.***

****You want the students to see that you went back into the article and used some of the words from the text. You did NOT copy word for word, but you put it into your own words. Remind them that they can do this and that is what the article is there for. It is our “source” that we are using for research, so we can refer to it in our writing.**

****Also make sure that they remember for the Topic sentence they do not want to start talking about Florida’s weather or the state’s beautiful beaches...or anything specific. That is for our A and B sentences. Our Topic sentence should JUST state the first topic of our essay.**

8. Write that sentence in the T1 box.
9. Now we are going to write six more sentences under T1.
10. We are going to write 3-4 sentences about our A (weather) and three sentences about our B (beach life). Remind students to look at their planning to see what their As and Bs are.
11. So let’s come up with 3-4 sentences for A. Remember, we want to use the article to come up with these sentences. But we HAVE to put it in our own words.
12. Once you’re done, check your work. Be sure it teaches your reader about how Florida residents have a great lifestyle.

****Here is the most important part of this lesson:** Your A and B sentences HAVE to come from information in the article. You cannot make up information about Florida. The information HAS to come from the article in your OWN words. Please make sure you constantly point this out as you are teaching/modeling. Keep the article under the document camera and underline where you are getting the information from and how you are putting it in your own words.

- We have to write 3 sentences about A.
- Our 1st sentence about A should tell our reader what our A is (weather).
- Write...***One thing about Florida is that the weather is typically sunny and warm.***
- Now we have to tell our reader more about the weather. ****Look back in the article****
- Write...***The state has about 128 sunny days a year.***
This is why it is called the “Sunshine State.”

13. Do we have 3 sentences about A? Yes! Here they are:

One thing about Florida is that the weather is typically sunny and warm. The state has about 128 sunny days a year. This is why it is called the “Sunshine State.”

- Look closely, our 1st sentence about A tells our reader what A is.
- Then the next 2 sentences tell more about A.

14. Now we have to write 3 sentences about B (beach life).

- Our 1st sentence about B should do what? (Tell our reader what B is)
- Write...***To go along with the sunny, warm weather, Florida has beautiful beaches to enjoy.***
- Our next 2 sentences have to give more information about it.
- Write...***Throughout the state, there are 663 miles of beaches.***
The white sand and warm waters are why many people love living in Florida.

15. Do we have 3 sentences about B? Yes! Here they are:

To go along with the sunny, warm weather, Florida has beautiful beaches to enjoy. Throughout the state, there are 663 miles of beaches. The white sand and warm waters are why many people love living in Florida.

-Look closely, our 1st sentence about B tells our reader what B is.

-Then the next 2 sentences give more information about it.

16. So now our T1 paragraph should have 7 sentences:

Topic Sentence

3 Sentences about A

3 Sentences about B

First, Florida is a great place to live because of the lifestyle. *One thing about Florida is that the weather is typically sunny and warm. The state has about 128 sunny days a year. This is why it is called the “Sunshine State.”* ***To go along with the sunny, warm weather, Florida has beautiful beaches to enjoy. Throughout the state there are 663 miles of beaches. The white sand and warm waters are why many people love living in Florida.***

My topic sentence is in red. The 3 sentences about A are in blue. The 3 sentences about B are in green.

17. The first sentence (First, Florida is a great place to live) is called the T sentence. The T stands for Topic.

18. The next 3 sentences are called 3A, because it is three sentences about A.

19. The next 3 sentences are called 3B, because it is three sentences about B.

**Please make sure students know that they can write more than 3 sentences. Three is just the minimum. Try to emphasize and model with more sentences so they can see how this is done.

20. So the T1 paragraph now has 7 sentences...T, 3A, and 3B.

21. Now we will do the same for T2. Let’s work on this one together.

22. Let’s start with the first sentence. What is this sentence called? (T sentence)

23. What should it start with? (Second)

24. It should say: ***Second, Florida has a very popular tourist attraction called Disney World.***

25. The next sentences are 3A. We need to write three sentences about A (parks).

-Remember, our 1st sentence tells our reader what A is. Then we write 2 sentences to give more information to our reader about A.

-So for the 1st sentence, let’s say...***In the entire world, Disney World is the most visited theme park.***

-Now let’s give our reader more information about this.

-Write...***It has 52 million people visit each year! The parks people come to see are Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Disney’s Hollywood Studios, and Disney’s Animal Kingdom.***

****Make a point to show students how you went into the article and changed things into your own words. They may also have to ADD WORDS (elaborate) and put words from the article in their OWN WORDS.**

26. Do we have 3 sentences about A? (Yes)

-Did the 1st sentence tell our reader what A is? (Yes)

-Did our next 2 sentences give our reader more information? (Yes)

27. Now we write 3B, which are three sentences about B (Additional Fun).

(example: *Not only does Disney World just have amusement parks, but they also have lots of other fun places and activities to see and do. They have waterparks, shopping, restaurants, and hotels. If you haven't gotten enough during the day, they even have nightlife.*)

28. Our T2 should now have seven sentences (T, 3A, and 3B) and should look something like this:

Second, Florida has a very popular tourist attraction called Disney World. In the entire world, Disney World is the most visited theme park. It has 52 million people visit each year! The parks people come to see are Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Disney's Hollywood Studios, and Disney's Animal Kingdom. Not only does Disney World just have amusement parks, but they also have lots of other fun places and activities to see and do. They have waterparks, shopping, restaurants, and hotels. If you haven't gotten enough during the day, they even have nightlife.

**My Topic sentence is in red, my 3A are in blue, and my 3B are in green.

29. Follow the same steps for T3. Here is an example of what T3 should look like:

Third, Florida has good farming. The state is not only known for oranges, but many other crops like grapefruit, snap beans, squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, watermelons, and sugar cane. These crops bring in \$148.5 billion each year. They also create about 14 percent of Florida's jobs. Also, the state's land plays a very important role in Florida's farming. A good location for farming is a place that is well drained and flat. When farmers plant in Florida, they must make sure they create the right size hole, add manure to their soil, and create a "bowl" around their plants to serve as a way of watering.

30. Hand out practice worksheet. Let students begin working on it. Whatever is not finished in class, allow them to take home and finish for homework.

Writing: Lesson 26

Teacher Copy

****This is a teacher copy of the completed essay after today's lesson****

I *Have you ever been to Florida? Florida is a great place to live because of the comfortable lifestyle people have, Disney World, and the farming. Florida has so much to offer!*

R1 *First, Florida is a great place to live because of the lifestyle. One thing about Florida is that the weather is typically sunny and warm. The state has about 128 sunny days a year. This is why it is called the “Sunshine State.” To go along with the sunny, warm weather, Florida has beautiful beaches to enjoy. Throughout the state there are 663 miles of beaches. The white sand and warm waters are why many people love living in Florida.*

R2 *Second, Florida has a very popular tourist attraction called Disney World. In the entire world, Disney World is the most visited theme park. It has 52 million people visit each year! The parks people come to see are Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Disney’s Hollywood Studios, and Disney’s Animal Kingdom. Not only does Disney World just have amusement parks, but they have lots of other fun places and activities to see and do. They have waterparks,*

shopping, restaurants, and hotels. If you haven't gotten enough during the day, they even have nightlife.

R3 *Third, Florida has good farming. The state is not only known for oranges, but many other crops like grapefruit, snap beans, squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, watermelons, and sugar cane. These crops bring in \$148.5 billion each year. They also create about 14 percent of Florida's jobs. Also, the state's land plays a very important role in Florida's farming. A good location for farming is a place that is well-drained and flat. When farmers plant in Florida, they must make sure they create the right size hole, add manure to their soil, and create a "bowl" around their plants to serve as a way of watering.*

C

Name: _____

Writing: Lesson 27

Student Practice/Homework

For this assignment, you will need these 2 passages.

Mountains Ranges: The Appalachian Mountains
Mountains Ranges: Mount Mitchell

Write to inform your reader about mountain ranges.

I _____

T1 _____ a. _____

b. _____

T2 _____ a. _____

b. _____

T3 _____ a. _____

b. _____

C _____

I

T1

T2

T3 _____

C _____



Florida Today

The Sunshine State 820

- 1 Florida is located in the southeast of the United States. On its east coast is the Atlantic Ocean. On its west coast is the Gulf of Mexico. Florida is known for its sunny, warm weather. It also has beautiful beaches and many tourist attractions. People from near and far travel to Florida to vacation and see its amazing sights.



Florida's Weather

- 2 Florida is called “The Sunshine State” for a reason. It has about 128 days of sunshine a year. The climate in northern Florida is humid subtropical¹. In south Florida, there is a tropical climate. Between May and October is when Florida has its rainy season. This is the same season that brings bad thunderstorms and hurricanes. Florida has its dry season from October to April. During this time, the state does not see much rain. This can be scary, as rules are typically put in place to conserve² water. Because the climate is so favorable, many people like to travel to Florida.

Florida's Beautiful Beaches

- 3 Florida is known for its 663 miles of beaches on both the eastern and western coasts of the state. Many people travel there in search of white sand and warm water. There are several different popular beaches in Florida. There are family-friendly beaches like Destin Florida to lively, party beaches like South Beach in Miami. The beach is a place to relax and have fun. People like to come and enjoy the ocean and the warm weather that Florida has to offer.



Florida's Famous Tourist Attraction

- 4 Florida is known for Walt Disney World! This is a popular tourist attraction in the United States. Disney is in Orlando and is the most visited vacation resort in the world. Over 52 million people come every year! In 1971, Magic Kingdom, the first theme park opened. What followed were Epcot, then Disney's Hollywood Studios, and lastly Disney's Animal Kingdom. Since then, there have been several additions to the Disney Resort such as waterparks, shopping and restaurants, hotels, and night life.

"Florida Today The Sunshine State" written for educational purposes.

- 1.) **subtropical**- relating to or characteristic of the regions bordering the tropics
- 2.) **conserve**- to protect from harm or destruction



Florida's Farming 820

- 5 When people think of Florida, they only think of oranges! But, Florida is known for at least eight major U.S. crops. These crops are grapefruit, snap beans, squash, and sugar cane. They also include cucumbers, tomatoes, watermelons, and, of course, oranges! Florida provides over half the orange juice that all Americans drink each year. Florida's farming creates about 14 percent of the state's jobs. It brings in \$148.5 billion to the state's **economy**¹.
- 6 Because Florida is a leading state for these certain crops, the state's land plays an important role. The land controls the amount of water, the air quality, and **climate**² the crop gets. These are all things that can affect the crop and how much of it is sold.
- 7 The perfect place for growing in Florida is a well-drained, flat piece of land. For oranges, farmers clear away the grass. They create a hole 1-1/2 the size of the bottom of the plant. They add manure to the hole. Farmers place the plant in the hole a little higher than the soil's surface. Using the leftover soil, farmers make a "bowl" around the plant. This serves as a way of watering the plant without watering it too much.

"Florida's Farming" written for educational purposes.

1.) **economy**- the wealth or resources of a country or region

2.) **climate**- the weather conditions in an area over a long period of time



Mountain Ranges – The Appalachian Mountains 820

- 1 The Appalachian Mountains are located on the east side of the United States. These mountains formed 480 million years ago. This mountain chain used to be as tall as the Rocky Mountains, but **erosion**¹ has caused it to shrink. You can find these mountains in the southern states of Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. They also extend north into New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. The highest group of mountains in this range is called Mount Mitchell. This mountain is found in North Carolina. It is 6,684 feet high.



- 2 The Appalachian Mountains are known for their coal. Coal is black rock made of plant matter. It is found underground and used for fuel. Coal mining takes place by using a process called Mountain Top Removal. This causes plant and animal life in these areas to be in danger. Also, Petroleum is another natural resource found in this mountain range. This discovery has gotten the attention of many oil companies who need this **natural resource**² for their product.



- 3 The Appalachian Mountain Range is home to many different species of plants. Most of these plants are broad-leafed or evergreen needle trees. Evergreen trees include Spruce, Fir, and Hemlock trees. Beech, Maple, and Dogwoods are some of the broad-leafed trees in the Appalachian forests. Because of the variety of trees, there are many animals that live in these mountains. The most common animals seen are squirrels, rabbits, and deer.

“Mountain Ranges – The Appalachian Mountains” written for educational purposes.

- 1.) **erosion**-the process of being eroded by wind, water, or other natural agents
- 2.) **natural resource**- materials or substances found in nature that can be used for economic gain



Mountain Ranges - Mount Mitchell 810

- 4 Mount Mitchell is the highest peak in the Appalachian Mountain Range. It is also the highest peak on the east coast of the United States. Its location is in Burnsville, North Carolina. The mountain is 6,684 feet high. It is protected by Mount Mitchell State Park.
- 5 Mount Mitchell was named after a professor from the University of North Carolina. His name was Elisha Mitchell. He was the first to explore the mountain. He determined that it was higher than Mount Washington. At the time, Mount Washington was considered the tallest peak east of the Rocky Mountains. Mitchell passed away close by at Mitchell Falls in 1857. He was doing other **explorations**¹ when he fell and died. On the top of the mountain is a new observation deck that was created in 2006. Dr. Mitchell's tomb is now located there as well.
- 6 Mount Mitchell has many different plants and trees. The area is mainly covered by two different types of evergreens including the Red Spruce and Fraser Fir. The pine cones that fall from these trees feed the birds and other wildlife all year round. Also, wildflowers are **abundant**² during summer months.
- 7 The climate of Mount Mitchell is subalpine. This means that this area has mild summers and long, moderate winters. The average temperature is 25 degrees in January and 59 degrees in July. Heavy snow usually falls between December and March. Because of its **altitude**³, snow flurries have also been reported before during the summer months of June, July, August, and September. Precipitation and gusty winds are common on Mount Mitchell.

“Mountain Ranges – Mount Mitchell” written for educational purposes.

1.) **explorations**- the action of traveling in or through an unfamiliar area to learn about it

2.) **abundant**- large quantities

3.) **altitude**- the height of an object