JUST WRITE

Booster Series: Years 8-9 Writing

BIG IDEA:

Capable writers do not always reach the Upper 2-3 Bands in NAPLAN Writing. When writing on demand, many of these students have difficulty planning a cohesive and engaging piece. They sometimes limit themselves by writing to a formula.

Just Write students discover how successful writers create ideas and expand on those ideas to draw the audience in. They practise the craft of writing, constructing sentences and passages that convey subject matter, mode and tenor.

Just Write helps schools to build staff and student capability simultaneously. School leaders and Years 8-9 class teachers can access the IMPACT Centre's *Writing Squad.* Web conference supervisors can co-teach with our online teacher.

SELECTION CRITERIA – U2B or U3B STUDENTS:

✓ **U2B groups** are for students who achieved **Band 8 or Band 9** in Year 7 NAPLAN Writing 2015 or 2016. The aim is to maintain or boost their U2B result.

✓ **U3B groups** are for students who achieved **Band 7 or Band 8** in Year 7 NAPLAN Writing 2015 or 2016. The aim is to maintain or boost their U3B result.

✓ Schools can enrol students in U2B groups, U3B groups or a combination.

✓ Schools can form a combined **Band 7-8-9** group to create a full group.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM:

See page 2 for Australian Curriculum links, NAPLAN online, and assessment/reporting details.

THE COURSE:

LESSON OVERVIEW		
NO.	**TITLE**	**CONTENT**
1	Welcome to *Just Write*	▪ Introduction to web conferencing tools
2	Online Connection	▪ Introduction to eLearn ▪ Writing for fun and writing scoreboards
3	Pre-test	▪ Completion of pre-test (demand writing task)
4	What's the big idea?	▪ Purpose of a big idea/theme ▪ Identifying the big idea/theme in writing
5	Weaving it in	▪ Creating a big idea and applying it to a given/chosen context
6	Who, why and how?	▪ The importance of audience, purpose and tone
7	Hit the target	▪ Specific strategies for appealing to different audiences ▪ Word choice, tone, and ideas
8	What are the details?	▪ Identifying and practising the three sentence types for a purpose
9	Craft it with care	▪ Practise making meaning and developing atmosphere with sentence types
10	Score Check	▪ Reviewing all concepts and application of scoreboard
11	Post-test	▪ Completion of post-test (demand writing task)
12	Sharing and Reflection	▪ Reflection on learning ▪ Sharing of post-tests

Years 8-9

Suggested Pathway

R1 **R2** **R3**

Year 9 → Year 8 → Year 8

'I liked that students were asked to think about a single 'big' idea to focus their writing - this is something that they will find useful in planning their writing. I do think that having an 'expert' who isn't their classroom teacher and an environment in which classroom distractions don't apply is a valuable point of difference!

Supervisor 2016

'Just Write has been a great program. I've learnt a lot more about English and computer skills and my English knowledge has expanded greatly. I'm a confident writer now.'

Student 2016

How it Works	Participation Costs	Secondary Main Page	Register Now!

Australian Curriculum

English Learning Area

Language Strand - Expressing and developing ideas	Literature Strand – Creating texts	
Explain how authors creatively use the structures of sentences and clauses for particular effects (ACELA1557)	Create imaginative, informative and persuasive texts that present a point of view and advance or illustrate arguments (ACELY1746)	Review and edit students' own and others' texts to improve clarity and control over content, organisation, paragraphing, sentence structure, and vocabulary (ACELY1747)

General Capabilities

Literacy

Composing texts through speaking, writing and creating
• Use language to interact with others
• Compose texts

Text knowledge
• Use knowledge of text structures
• Use knowledge of text cohesion

Grammar knowledge
• Use knowledge of sentence structures
• Use knowledge of words and word groups
• Express opinion and point of view

Critical and Creative Thinking

Generating ideas, possibilities and actions
• Imagine possibilities and connect ideas
• Consider alternatives

Reflecting on thinking and processes
• Reflect on processes

Analysing, synthesising and evaluating reasoning and procedures
• Apply logic and reasoning

Personal and Social Capability

Self-management
• Work independently and show initiative
Social management
• Communicate effectively
• Work collaboratively
Self-awareness
• Develop reflective practice

ICT Capability

Investigating with ICT
• Locate, generate and access data and information
Creating with ICT
• Generate ideas, plans and processes
Communicating with ICT
• Understand computer mediated communications
• Collaborate, share and exchange

NAPLAN Online – ICT Skills Guide

NAPLAN Online requires students to confidently use a computer or device in at least seven ways. As shown below, IMPACT Centre projects develop all seven of these skills and are an excellent way to prepare your students for online testing.

1. Locate and select an answer from a list – YES	5. Read and comprehend digital texts – YES
2. Type an answer – YES	6. Plan and compose text using word processing – YES
3. Read the screen and navigate web pages – YES	7. Listen using a headset – YES
4. Manipulate objects on screen – YES	**NB:** See **DET's NAPLAN Online ICT Skills Guide** for details.

Assessment

Pre and Post Tests
Students complete a pre-test and then a post-test to gauge their level of improvement. Both tests require students to plan and write a narrative on demand in response to a given stimulus. Three criteria are used - Ideas, Audience and Sentence Structure.

Reporting

▪ Pre and post assessment data are provided to schools, along with student attendance data.
▪ Qualitative report card comments are provided to schools. We recommend their inclusion as an OLA on semester report cards.

How it Works	Participation Costs	Secondary Main Page	Register Now!

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