Mini-lesson

Writing Genres
Narrative writing tells a story.

Narrative writing includes:
- accurate ordering of events.
- conflict that generates action.
- a climax or turning point in the action.
- a satisfying resolution.

Use narrative writing in:
- stories.
- skits and plays.
- personal experience essays.
- plot summaries.
Narrative Essentials

Create a basic plot
Make something happen to someone

Hook & satisfy readers
Start & end the story intentionally

Sequence time & events
Connect action with transitions

Describe the action
Use sensory details to develop key moments

“Show” close-up details
Describe main character(s) & setting(s)

Set the right mood
Reveal character feelings & setting tone
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Mashed Potato Pizza</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td>My grandpa always tells me that people who laugh at their own mistakes will get everyone else to laugh along with them. Yesterday, I learned that he is right.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning of the Story</strong></td>
<td>“Stay in line,” Mrs. Martin said. I knew right away that my friend Naomi wouldn’t be able to cut. I looked at Naomi and frowned. Soon, the line began to move faster, and I followed along hoping that there would still be pizza.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When I reached the counter, I looked at the choices. I could only see chicken and mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, and fish. I could hear the rumbling of my very disappointed stomach.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Then, out of the corner of my eye, I saw one last piece of pepperoni pizza. I got so excited.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Middle Events</strong></td>
<td>“Pepperoni pizza,” I said politely. Mrs. Martin handed me the pizza. I took the paper plate so quickly that the pizza slid off the plate. I tried to save it, but the pizza landed in the pan of hot, buttery mashed potatoes.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I could feel my face turning redder and redder. All I could hear was laughter from the kids in line.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>As I looked at the upside-down pizza, I heard Mrs. Martin's voice. “Maria, would you like a side of mashed potatoes with your pizza?”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>End of the Story</strong></td>
<td>I looked up and saw Naomi. She was laughing too. With a nervous smile, I said, “Of course.”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Martin smiled and scooped the mashed potato pizza on my plate. I looked around at my friends, and we all laughed again.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I never really believed my grandpa until I saw my friends laughing with me. The laughing made me feel good instead of just clumsy.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Conclusion</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Persuasive writing expresses an opinion and attempts to convince the reader that this opinion is correct.

Persuasive writing includes:
- a clear and direct opinion statement.
- specific facts.
- examples or statistics to back up the opinion and disprove opposing opinions.

Use persuasive writing in:
- essays.
- editorials.
- book reviews.
Identify topic & position
Explain what you want or what you believe

List many good reasons
Provide solid support for why you are right

Organize key points
Order your reasons to end with your best

End with what you want
Tell readers what you expect them to do

Express your attitude
Reveal your feelings & point of view

Employ exact words
Select precise words to convince the reader
Visit the best beach

I think my beach is the best beach in the world. I would like to invite tourists from all over the world to visit my beach. You are guaranteed to have a great time.

There are lots of reasons why you will have the best time at my beach. To start with, my beach is only five minutes away from an international airport so you won’t have to wait long to get there.

Next, you can relax in magnificent luxury or save money happily because there’s a huge variety of accommodation available, from five-star hotels to budget backpackers.

Finally, the beach itself is wonderful with sparkling waves and pristine, white sand, fringed by shady palm trees. You can watch whales and dolphins play, surf, swim, sunbake, sail, paddle canoes, windsurf, jet ski, snorkel, dive, play volleyball or just laze around.

My beach has a huge variety of things to do and places to stay. It’s beautiful and easy to reach. See you there soon!!
Expository writing gives facts or directions, identifies terms, or clarifies ideas.

Expository writing includes:
- definitions.
- cause and effect relationships.
- comparisons and contrasts.
- illustrations and examples.

Use expository writing in:
- research reports.
- how-to speeches.
- newspaper articles.
- glossaries.
**Expository Essentials**

- **Identify a topic/thesis**
  Choose an angle that is interesting to you

- **List facts & details**
  Include the important & the interesting

- **Pump up ideas**
  Include reasons, examples, facts, & quotes

- **Group & organize ideas**
  Sort details into beginning, middle, & end

- **Use topic-related words**
  Sound like an expert with vocabulary terms

- **Describe examples**
  Use precise nouns & verbs to explain ideas