Best Practices

PEG Writing provides a robust platform for teachers to customize, manage, and deliver individualized writing instruction.

Getting Started

- PEG Writing is designed to support writing across content areas. Teachers can create courses to have students practice and improve their writing in content and elective course allowing for cross-curricular collaboration.

- Teachers can create different courses at multiple grade levels to allow students to work at their current literacy level.

Prompts

- Teachers can align the prepackaged prompts with their instruction or create new ones.

- Prepackaged prompts address the three genres of writing: narrative, informative/explanatory, and argumentative.

- Using the “Add Stimulus” feature, teachers can add material such as videos, articles/text, links, etc.

- Educators can share prompts so students have a wider variety of options for writing.

- By utilizing the “Recommend” feature, teachers can assign different prompts within the same course.

Advanced Options

- The timer can be enabled or disabled by the teacher for individual assignments. Students can hide the timer on the screen, if desired.

- Teachers control the number of essay drafts students can submit. Students should be encouraged to refine their writing by completing at least three to five revisions.

- Spelling/grammar feedback can be enabled or disabled by the teacher for individual drafts. It is recommended that this feedback remain hidden until the third draft. This ensures that students focus on the content of their writing when they begin revising rather than on mistakes in spelling and grammar.

- Develop students’ analytical skills by enabling the Peer Review feature.
Graphic Organizers

- Students can use a variety of graphic organizers to aid the prewriting process. If technology access is limited, teachers can print graphic organizers for students to complete and review before they begin writing.

- Completed graphic organizers can be used by students as references during the revision process to evaluate how effectively topic sentences and other structures were implemented.

Lessons

- Within essay score reports, students receive targeted instruction through differentiated lessons. Lessons are available for each of the six traits at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels.

- Students can use headsets for read-aloud lessons.

- Students can complete lessons if they finish work early or have a few minutes to spare at the end of class.

- Teachers can set minimum time requirements for students to utilize lessons to improve their knowledge.

Reports

- The reports are individualized for students’ and teachers’ use.

- Reports contain student information that is ideal for use in many settings: IEP meetings, SST meetings, parent/teacher conferences, progress reports, report cards, LEP/ESL placements, and RTI goals.

- Student can use reports to lead conferences.

- Performance Reports allow teachers to make data driven instructional decisions.

- Reports can be exported and manipulated as needed.

Celebrating Successes

- Showcase increases in student scores by using score report data.

- Cite evidence of improvement using the bar graphs that show students’ progress over time.

- Commend students for time spent using the interactive lessons.

- Keep the focus on progress rather than the overall score. An overall score of 15 for a student who started with an overall score of 10 is a huge success!

- Encourage students to show PEG Writing to their families. Share the PEG Writing link through weekly updates to parents.

- Tweet about writing with #pegwriting and @pegwriting.

- Host a “Publishing Party” at school and invite community members to listen as students read their essays aloud.

- Print stories and bind them into a book.

- Have students read essays to younger students in the school or district (e.g., Read Across America Week).

- Hold essay contests.

For more information about PEG Writing:
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