

Writing the STAAR Essays

Hands on writing with Alice Nine

AGENDA

October 4, 2018

Radisson Airport Hotel, El Paso, TX

8:00 - 8:30 WELCOME

- Introductions and business of the day
- Synopsis of online portion*

8:30 - 11:30 MORNING SESSION

- Scoring - holistic vs. analytical
- Nature of STAAR prompts
- Form of expository essay
- Writing reservoirs
- Prewriting
 - Identify general topic
 - Narrow topic
 - Compose a working "central idea" sentence

11:30 AM - 12:30 LUNCH

12:30 - 2:45 AFTERNOON SESSION

- Prewriting continued
 - X-Builder for Body
- Revise "central idea" sentence six ways
- Conclusions: Recast thesis and reflect
- "Be sure to ..." connects to rubric

2:45 - 3:00 WRAP-UP

*Attached: Outline of online portion of PD

Control at the word and sentence level is necessary for control at the paragraph and essay level.



Connect / Follow Alice Nine alice@nine-enterprises.com

Website: <http://alicenine.net>

Twitter: [@jcsnine](https://twitter.com/jcsnine) #JCSpell #A9Gram #A9Wrt

Facebook: [alice.t.nine](https://www.facebook.com/alicet.nine)

Blog: <http://alicenine.net/blog/>

EMAIL: alice@nine-enterprises.com

We are teachers empowering students with English proficiency

The 4th Grade STAAR Essay 2019

an online course with Alice Nine

Module 1. Deciphering the Rubric

We will analyze the three writing traits and the student performance descriptors in the STAAR™ writing rubrics.

We will demystify the language of the rubrics in order to simplify and clarify how student writing will be assessed.

Module 2. Deconstructing the Prompt

We will closely examine each component of the expository prompt scaffold for the STAAR™ writing test in grade 4.

We will identify how students should use each component to support writing the essay for STAAR™.

Module 3. Difference: Narrative vs. Expository

We will create a chart that lists common essay elements and notes their differences as we created a detailed, side-by-side illustrated comparison for the personal narrative and expository essays.

Module 4. Developing the Essay

Examine the structure and form of the expository essay and construct a graphic that represents each component.

Develop a model essay

Module 5. From Prompt to Essay

Walk through a detailed process step-by-step how-to and then experience a step-by-step model with released STAAR 2015 prompt

- Getting inside the prompt and avoiding distractions
- Responding to the prompt with a clear central idea
- Planning the essay body to support the clear central idea
- Planning the conclusion
- Six ways to revise the clear central idea

Resources.

Released prompts, STAAR-like prompts, Scoring Guides, STAAR assessment and instruction

Materials Printable Notes and Handouts are linked in the course

Access is 24/7 to this course.