

Writing the STAAR Essays

Hands on writing with Alice Nine

AGENDA

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Radisson Airport Hotel, El Paso, TX

8:00 - 8:30 WELCOME

- Introductions and business of the day
- Review of online course work*
 - What is holistic scoring
 - Decipher the rubric
 - Deconstruct the prompt

8:15 - 11:30 MORNING SESSION

- PREWRITE --
 - Compose "central idea" sentences (thesis statement)
 - Use six revision tools to revise "central idea" sentences
 - Use X-Builder to outline and organize ideas for essay body
 - Write concluding sentences that reflect central idea

11:30 AM - 12:30 LUNCH

12:30 - 3:15 AFTERNOON SESSION

- DRAFT the essay from the X-Builder
- EDIT the draft using "Be sure to ..." in STAAR prompt
- COPY draft onto STAAR paper

Throughout the day we will

- Create a Student NOTEBOOK
- Examine TEA released essays

3:15 - 3:30 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.



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We are teachers empowering students with English proficiency

The 4th Grade STAAR Essay 2018

Alice Nine's Professional Development Center (alicenine.net)

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

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 through March 2018.