



## SIMPLE STRATEGIES RESULT IN DRAMATIC DIFFERENCE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT'S WRITING

These two writing samples were produced by the same student in response to the essay prompt in the Grade 7 Baseline Assessment. Before receiving *Step Up to Writing®* instruction, the student wrote a basic paragraph with little elaboration. After three days of instruction, the student composed an essay response on the same topic with considerably more elaboration and explanation.

**Students learn to elaborate on the key idea using the Es:** Explanation, Examples, Experiences, Events, Evidence, Expert opinions, Exact information, Effective illustrations and quotations, and Expanding on everyday life

**Prompt:** Write a short essay describing how the campers address their basic human needs on their winter camping trip. Make sure to refer to information from the sources in your response.

#### IMPLEMENTATION BACKGROUND

**Writing Strategy:** Stretching Paragraphs and Using the Es (Elaboration)

Grade Level of Student: 8th
Instructional Minutes/Week: 180

Class Size: 25

School: Soulsbyville Elementary, K-8

District: Soulsbyville

**Explanation** 

#### BEFORE STEP UP TO WRITING: Initial Assessment Response

The campers in the story had several human needs. First they had tunnel shovels to dig their way into the snow. The campers had different type of clothing, waterproof jackets and pants, wool sweaters. They also had food supplies. A good thing that they had was warm sleeping bag If you want to stay warm and dry, you need to build a proper shelter and it stabled correctly. Try not to where cotton because it will take in water and can cause hypothermia.

#### **AFTER 3 DAYS OF STEP UP TO WRITING INSTRUCTION:**

In the Icemen Campeth, five boys went camping in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The campers addressed three of their human needs which are Physical, Safety, and Social needs. these human needs are listed from Maslouis Hierarchy of human needs. Maslouis Hierarchy is a chain from basic to advanced human needs.

First of all the five boys addressed their physical needs. The first need is bringing food to eat. The campers brought canned beans to eat, and hot cocoa to drink. They built Quinzee huts for shelter. The huts had air and warmth. They got their air from a vent hole in the roof. they kept warm by having good sleeping bags and heavy close.

**Examples** 

After that, they addressed Safety needs. Shelter is a good safety need because it protects you from the outside. The hut they were using was called a Quinzee hut. it was a 10 by 8 foot mound of snow, hollowed out with a underground entrance. Other safety needs is having proper clothing, NO COTTON, warm sleeping bag, and having tools in a backpack.

Finally social needs. Social needs can be useful while camping with friends. The campers hung out by the fire in the snow. They drank hot cocoa because they were cold and tired to stay warm. The five boys worked together and built five Quinzee huts so they didn't have to build them in the dark and in the cold.

The Iceman Campeth taught me a lot about ice camping. How like Quinzee huts are hollowed out hounds of snow with a underground entrance. In safety needs it taught me that wearing cotton absorbers water and takes your body heat away. Also safety showed me that they blocked the entrance with their backpack from the outside. From my point of view, try going ice camping when it snows in your town.

**Explanation** 



Examples

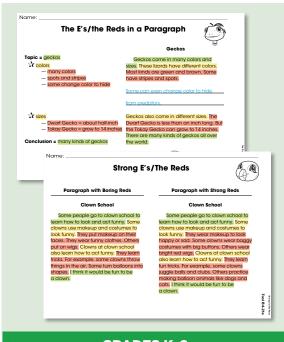
Experiences

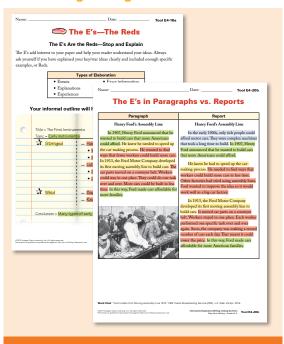




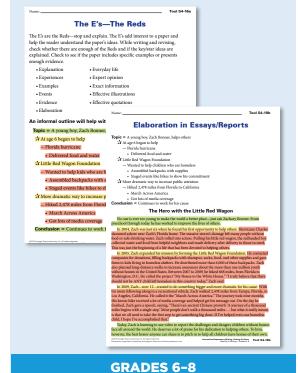
### Teach the Es Across Grade Levels to Dramatically Improve Students' Writing

Visit www.voyagersopris.com/stepuptowriting to watch student testimonial videos and download writing strategies.





#### **GRADES K-2**



# GRADES 3-5

