Just Write

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Recommended for Grades 3+

Just Write is a classroom-tested resource that helps students become confident, expressive writers. Students are guided through the writing process from initial idea to final edited and published narrative. Throughout, they are given models to follow and are encouraged to be creative.

The following sample lesson Writing Interesting Sentences helps students add details to their writing by answering the questions what, where, when, and why. Try this lesson today with an individual student, a small group, or the entire class. Just Write can be easily incorporated into any writing curriculum.

Three easy ways to order:
Toll free: 800.225.5750
Fax: 888.440.BOOK (2665)
Online: www.epsbooks.com

Recommended Companion Material
See our Companion Material recommendations on page 7 for great materials that complement Just Write Book 2.
Writing Interesting Sentences

Now you have all the tools you need to write interesting sentences.

First choose a subject. (Circle) one of the subjects below that you’d like to write about, or come up with your own:

The snake

A bike

The storm

Now add interesting details about the subject. Use the questions below to help.

Did what? ____________________________

Where? _____________________________

When? _____________________________

Why? _____________________________

Now write one sentence that uses all the details.

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________
Practice

Again, choose a subject. Circle the subject that you choose.

My baby-sitter
A spider
The noise

Now add interesting details about the subject using the questions below to help.

Did what? ______________________________

Where? ________________________________

When? ________________________________

Why? ________________________________

Now write one sentence that uses all the details.

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
Exercise 1

This exercise will help you expand your sentences by explaining why.

Look at this example:

I rinse my dog off with fresh water every time he swims in the ocean.

I rinse my dog off with fresh water every time he swims in the ocean **because the salt makes him itch**.

Expand these sentences by choosing a, b, or c to explain **why**. Notice how the words **because, so, and to** help. **Circle** the best choice.

1. I water the plants every week
   a. because they are wet.
   b. so they won’t dry out.
   c. because I love to experiment.

2. I always walk my dog on a leash
   a. because it is cold outside.
   b. to show off to the neighbors.
   c. because our town has a leash law.

3. I sat down on the step
   a. because I was tired.
   b. to put my bike in the garage.
   c. so mom can go to the market.

4. I make breakfast for my family on Sundays
   a. so it will be a sunny day.
   b. because I love to cook.
   c. to get better at soccer.
1. Write an interesting sentence telling what the hamster did and where he did it.

My hamster ____________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

2. Write an interesting sentence telling what the adventure was, where it happened, and when.

The adventure _________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

3. Write an interesting sentence telling what the alien did, where he did it, and why.

The alien ____________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________
Exercise 3

Rewrite the following sentences and add details by answering the question provided at the end of the sentence.

1. My family went on vacation. (when)

   My family went on vacation last week.

2. I ran home from school. (why)

3. I fell off my bike. (when)

4. I put my homework away. (where)

Combining Your Sentences

Your reader will be more interested in your writing if it has a lot of variety. It is good to use some short sentences and some long sentences. An easy way to make a long sentence is to combine two short sentences with a connecting word.

Here are some words that you can use to combine your sentences:

but and since

or so because
Recommended Companion Material

EPS offers a wide range of products that complement the writing activities in Just Write Book 2. We recommend the following series to help students develop writing, spelling, and vocabulary skills.

More Words I Use When I Write
Grades 3–4
This personal dictionary provides an initial list of 1,100 high-frequency words with plenty of blank lines for new words chosen by the student or teacher. Additional words can be selected from textbooks, spelling lists, literature, or other sources. A section in the back of the book provides pages for lists of contractions, the names of friends and family members, and other categories of words.

A Spelling Dictionary for Beginning Writers
Grades 2–6
Based on classic studies and the author’s experience as a writing specialist, A Spelling Dictionary for Beginning Writers is an indispensable resource for the elementary classroom. This compact reference book contains approximately 1,500 high-frequency words that account for more than 90% of the words beginning writers use. A thematic word bank and a Mini-Thesaurus provide words by category and suggest alternatives for words students tend to overuse in their writing.

For more information about these series or to place an order, visit www.epsbooks.com or call 800.225.5750 to speak to a customer service representative.