

Writing Skills

Book A

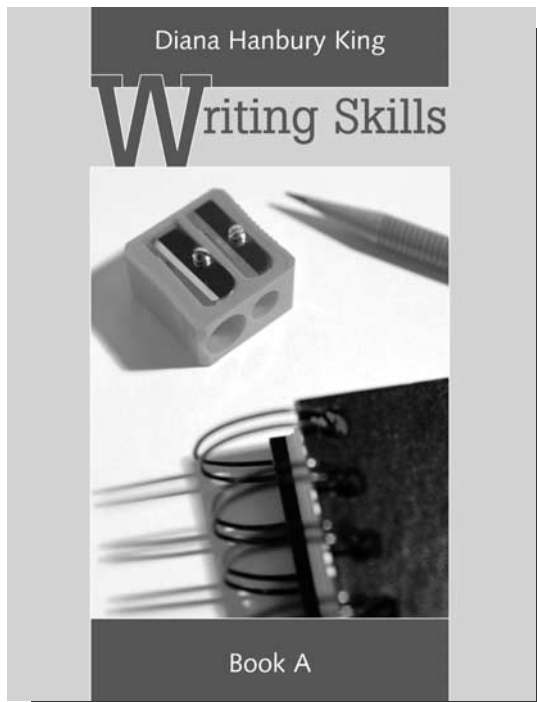
By Diana Hanbury King
Recommended for grades 2–4

Writing Skills, by Diana Hanbury King, is a comprehensive writing program for beginning, struggling, at-risk, or reluctant writers. This structured program provides an essential foundation in thinking and writing skills while offering strategies, techniques, and opportunities to apply them.

The following **sample lesson** features **verbs** and is designed to reinforce writing and grammar skills. Try this lesson today with an individual student, a small group, or the entire class. *Writing Skills* can be incorporated into almost any language arts curriculum.

Three easy ways to order:

Toll free: 800.225.5750
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Recommended Companion Material

See our *Companion Material* recommendations on page 7 for great materials that complement *Writing Skills*.



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VERBS



The predicate of a sentence always contains a word called a verb.

Verbs are words that show action or connect two ideas in a sentence.

Here are some examples of different types of verbs. These are examples of **action verbs**. They will tell what the subject does, did, or will do.

ate Mario **ate** three servings of broccoli.

travels The Smith family **travels** to Oregon every summer.

dance We **dance** together in the school play.

walked Mr. Long **walked** all the way to the grocery store.

slept I **slept** in a tent in the backyard.

There are other kinds of verbs called **linking verbs** and **helping verbs**. You will see these kinds of verbs often. These do not show action, but can be a very important part of a sentence.

Here are some common **linking verbs**. They link together the circled part of the sentence.

is	(Patty) is (my best friend.)
am	(I) am (nervous about the test.)
are	(We) are (third graders.)
was	(Ms. Kim) was (an architect.)
were	(You) were (very funny in the show.)

Here are some common **helping verbs**. They help give meaning to the verbs that follow.

has	Harry has (sent) me an e-mail.
have	I have (thought) about the problem for a long time.
had	We had (looked) everywhere for the keys.
can	Sandra will (ask) the clerk for help.
will	You can (have) some of my popcorn.

→ Exercise 1

Read each sentence. Circle each action verb. Then write a sentence of your own using the action verb you circled.

1. They ran down the dirt road.

2. My neighbor mowed the lawn.

3. The man juggled five oranges.

4. The deer leaped over the fence.

5. Drink this glass of water.

→ Exercise 3

Now write five sentences using one word from each column. You may make the nouns singular or plural.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

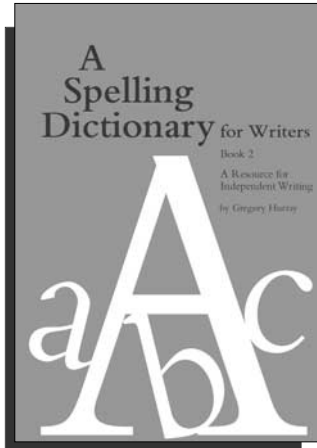
Recommended Companion Material

EPS offers a wide range of products and programs that complement the exercises and activities in *Writing Skills*. We recommend the following series to help students develop reading and comprehension skills.

Wordly Wise 3000

Grade Level/s: 2–12

Wordly Wise 3000, an EPS bestseller, develops vocabulary and comprehension skills for students in early elementary grades through high school. Each lesson features a word list, exercises that reinforce key vocabulary concepts, and a narrative that builds reading comprehension skills as students identify and apply words in context. The series also includes volumes of blackline master test booklets in state-standardized formats.



A Spelling Dictionary for Writers

Grade Level/s: 4–8

This comprehensive but accessible reference tool provides the correct spellings of more than 5,000 frequently used words. A thesaurus offers alternatives for overused words and expressions, and thematic lists help students write about the major curriculum areas. An excellent resource, *A Spelling Dictionary* improves students' compositions and fosters competent and resourceful writers.

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.



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