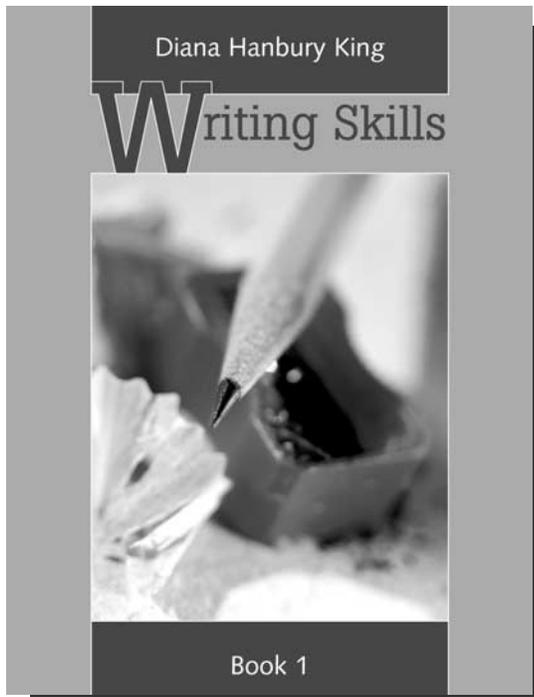


Writing Skills

Book 1



By Diana Hanbury King
Recommended for grades 5–6

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 **pronouns** 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.

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Recommended Companion Material

See our *Companion Material* recommendations on page 4 for great materials that complement *Writing Skills*.



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Pronouns

The prefix *pro* means “for.” A **pronoun** is a word that stands for a noun and is used to avoid repetition.

Instead of writing *Tom's mother gave Tom money for Tom's lunch*, you could write *She gave him money for his lunch*.

Here is a list of common pronouns.

I	yours	hers	they
me	he	we	them
my	she	us	their
you	him	our	it
your	her	ours	its

Unlike nouns, pronouns do not use apostrophes to show possession. When a pronoun has an apostrophe, it is a contraction. For example, *its* shows possession, but *it's* is a contraction that means “it is.”

Look at these examples.

These sentences use *its* to show possession.

The dog lifted its head.

The dragon guarded its treasure.

These sentences use *it's* as a contraction.

It's raining.

It's my turn.

Exercise 1

Improve these sentences by crossing out the nouns in boldface and writing the correct pronoun above each one.

1. As the child was eating **the child's** ice cream **the child's** mother drank **the mother's** tea.
2. The pony went into **the pony's** stable and ate **the pony's** oats.
3. My little kitten played with **the kitten's** toys and then curled up to sleep on **the kitten's** bed.
4. When they arrived, the explorers found natives who helped **the explorers** grow **the explorers'** food and gave **the explorers** advice on surviving the winter.
5. When the birds return in the spring, they build **the birds'** nests and lay **the bird's** eggs.

Exercise 2

Now write four sentences using at least four of the following pronouns. You may use more than one in a sentence.

me	they	her	ours
we	them	his	its
us	their	I	yours

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

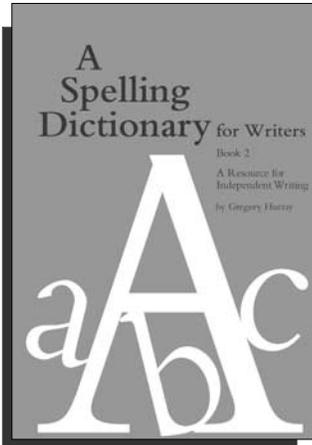
Recommended Companion Material

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.



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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.

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