

# High-Performance WRITING

Give students the specific skills they need  
to meet or exceed state writing standards

High-Performance Writing: A Structured Approach  
Grades 1–Adult

- Focus on writing forms found on state tests
- Promote self-evaluation for independent writing skills
- Produce more complex, sophisticated student writing



*Making the Difference™*



## Engage students with the Six Traits of Effective Writing at every level

*High-Performance Writing* helps teachers foster and develop in their students the Six Traits of Effective Writing: content, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions. Mini-lessons in each unit show students how to apply those skills to their own compositions, resulting in longer retention and better transfer of these key skills.

Explicit, highly developed scoring rubrics reflect the Six Traits, reinforcing good writing habits and practices. Clear scoring rubrics allow teachers to identify and focus on specific needs and challenges for individual students. Students can then use the rubrics to analyze their own independent writing, helping them develop a thorough and lasting comprehension of the qualities of good writing.

### Program Features

Unit topics address the writing genres frequently identified in state frameworks, allowing teachers to target grade-level-appropriate writing skills.

Straightforward lessons provide the scaffolding students need to internalize the writing process and emerge as independent writers.

Writing and revising strategies help students incorporate the Six Traits of Effective Writing into polished, expressive compositions.

### Who can benefit from High-Performance Writing?

Designed to help teachers provide students with skills for more sophisticated, expressive writing, this program is structured to be an effective tool in preparing students of all ages for state writing tests. Students begin units by writing in response to prompts, allowing teachers to use their writing samples as both a placement test and pretest.

- **Beginning Level** — for Grades 1–4 and older students, including students in Special Education and resource rooms who lack beginning writing skills
- **Intermediate Level** — for students in Grades 3–8
- **Advanced Level** — for Grades 5–Adult who are ready to write at a more challenging level

Because writing performance is now critical for most state achievement tests, and because program units can be used in sequence or for stand-alone writing instruction integrated with different curricula, this program helps teachers improve writing performance in a wide variety of students, including ESL and adults.

*“The lessons were easy to teach  
and easy for the students to follow.”*



High-Performance Writing: Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Levels

## Improve student performance in all writing forms and on writing tests

SRA/McGraw-Hill's *High-Performance Writing* is a three-level writing program that provides explicit, straightforward lesson plans built around process writing strategies. Designed to help teachers provide the specific writing skills students need to excel on writing achievement tests, this highly structured, comprehensive program includes:

- Strategies for teaching forms of writing and clear procedures for implementing them
- Precise scoring rubrics to help assess writing objectively
- Mini-lessons to teach skills students need for writing assignments
- Instruction in basic grammar and usage
- Practice in writing-on-demand to prepare students for testing situations
- Processes to help students develop the skills to monitor and manage their own writing

The process-oriented instructional approach is built around the basic framework:

(1) prewriting, (2) writing, (3) revising, (4) editing/proofreading, and (5) publishing. Each unit is organized around these sub-processes or stages of writing, fostering, and reinforcing a consistent, proven approach to writing achievement and success.

*“It was a great test prep for our fourth-grade standardized tests. Great layout and step-by-step approach.”*

## Provide students the tools they need to develop process-based writing skills

Each level of *High-Performance Writing* provides a choice of six units focused on different forms of writing. A research-proven three-step instructional model engages teachers and students cooperatively, providing specific instructions and extensive practice to develop process-based writing skills:

- 1) Teacher and students work together to identify components of the writing form and to develop skills needed to use the writing process.
- 2) Teacher and students work together to apply the knowledge and skills as students compose a collaborative passage.
- 3) Students engage in the writing process, employing the strategies and editing procedures as they write independently.

While each unit is part of a logical sequence of instruction, all six units can be used individually as stand-alone writing programs to supplement a reading or language arts curriculum. The six forms of writing selected are those most frequently seen on state writing achievement tests.

### What do researchers and teachers say about High-Performance Writing?

The program was field-tested in the United States and Canada with a wide variety of students in Grades 1–9, including regular and Special Education classes across a range of socioeconomic backgrounds. After completing a single unit, 91% of the students improved their scores from the pretest to the posttest. Improvements were significant, with 54% gaining as many as 20 points, while 37% gained as many as 50 points!

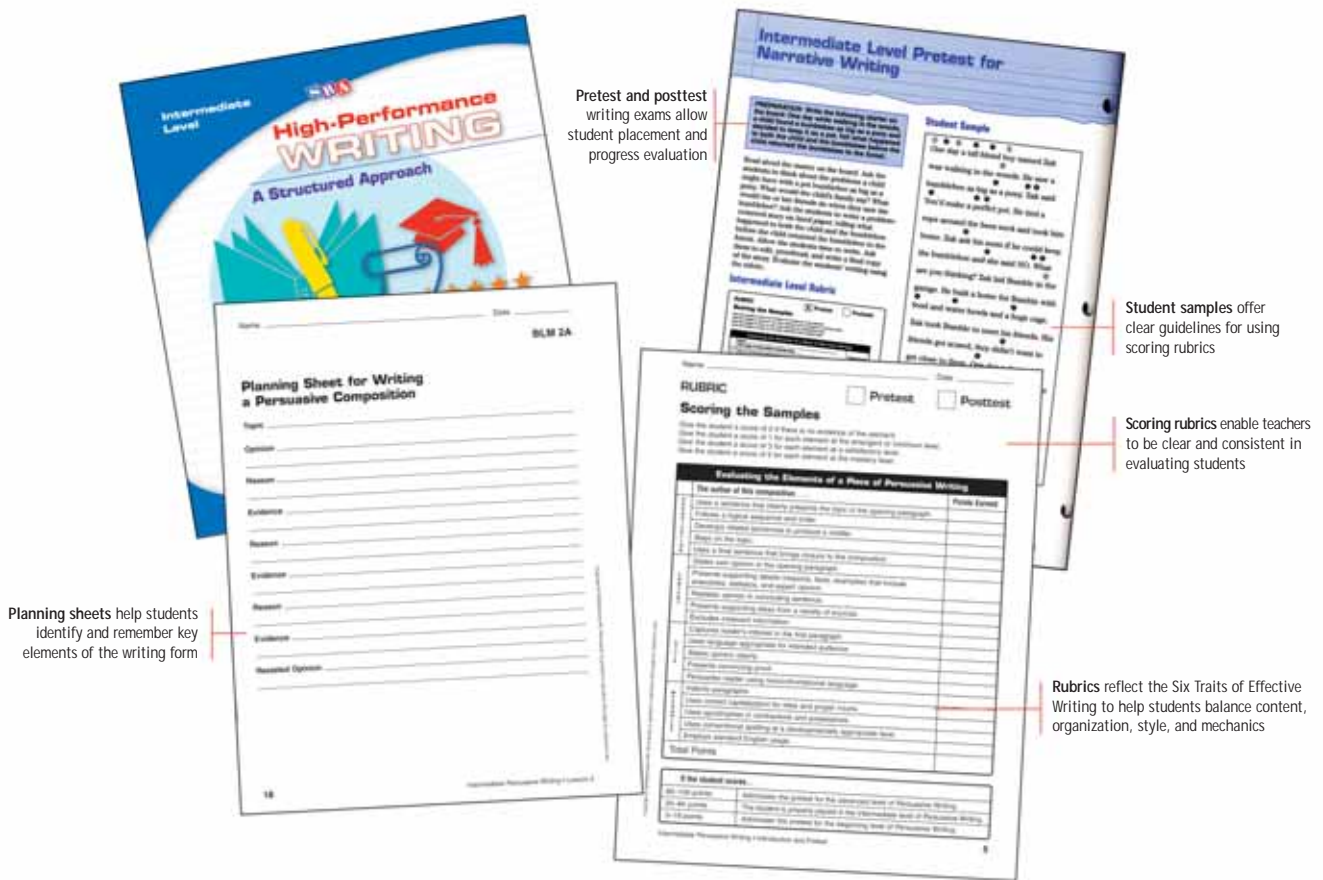
High-Performance Writing: A Structured Approach Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Levels							
LEVEL	CONTENTS AT-A-GLANCE						
	PRACTICAL WRITING	DESCRIPTIVE WRITING	NARRATIVE WRITING	PERSUASIVE WRITING	EXPOSITORY WRITING	REPORT WRITING	WRITER'S GUIDE
<b>Beginning Writing</b> Grades 1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letters: friendly, thank-you, invitation</li> <li>• Directions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensory descriptive writing</li> <li>• Spatial descriptive writing (multi-paragraph)</li> <li>• Personal response</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal narrative</li> <li>• Problem-centered story writing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constructing a simple argument</li> <li>• Sales pitch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing a summary</li> <li>• Compare and contrast</li> <li>• Instructions — explaining how to do a task</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting information</li> <li>• Outlining</li> <li>• Report writing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From proofreading to publication</li> <li>• Partner proofread</li> <li>• Evaluating writing effectiveness</li> <li>• Using technology</li> </ul>
<b>Intermediate Writing</b> Grades 3–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letters: friendly, of concern with a request</li> <li>• Directions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensory descriptive writing</li> <li>• Spatial descriptive writing (multi-paragraph)</li> <li>• Personal response</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal narrative</li> <li>• Problem-centered story writing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constructing an argument</li> <li>• Sales pitch</li> <li>• Writing an ad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing a summary</li> <li>• Compare and contrast</li> <li>• Instructions — explaining how to do a task</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting information</li> <li>• Outlining</li> <li>• Report writing</li> <li>• Preparing a bibliography</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From proofreading to publication</li> <li>• Partner proofread</li> <li>• Evaluating writing effectiveness</li> <li>• Using technology</li> </ul>
<b>Advanced Writing</b> Grades 5–Adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letters: friendly, of complaint with a request</li> <li>• Directions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensory descriptive writing</li> <li>• Spatial descriptive writing (multi-paragraph)</li> <li>• Personal response</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal narrative</li> <li>• Problem-centered story writing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constructing an argument</li> <li>• Sales pitch</li> <li>• Writing an ad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing a summary</li> <li>• Compare and contrast</li> <li>• Instructions — explaining how to do a task</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting information</li> <li>• Outlining</li> <li>• Report writing</li> <li>• Preparing a bibliography</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From proofreading to publication</li> <li>• Partner proofread</li> <li>• Evaluating writing effectiveness</li> <li>• Using technology</li> </ul>

# Develop sophisticated writing skills with comprehensive instructional materials

The program contains extensive and carefully designed teacher materials to save time and greatly simplify lesson planning, allowing teachers to concentrate on classroom interactions and instruction. Each level contains a **Program Guide**, a **Writer's Guide**, and six **Writing Unit Guides**, plus a three-ring binder for handy storage.

- **Writing Units** for all three levels feature six different forms of writing, a pretest and posttest, scoring rubrics for evaluating writing, lesson plans, and Blackline Masters for student activities
- **Writer's Guide** for each level provides skill-building exercises for teaching proofreading and suggestions for using technology
- **Program Guide** contains an overview of the program, detailed directions for scoring student writing using program rubrics, and a bibliography of children's books to use as models of good writing

Find additional instructional resources on [SRAonline.com](http://SRAonline.com).



High-Performance Writing: Intermediate Levels

*“My students have written more on the posttest than they have ever written before on their own. It’s awesome.”*

## High-Performance Writing: A Structured Approach provides teachers with a process-oriented program to prepare students for success on writing assignments and tests

A highly structured, straightforward program with appropriate scaffolding, *High-Performance Writing* offers effective, research-proven, classroom-tested tools and techniques to help students learn to write and to write better.

- Explicit, straightforward lesson plans built around process strategies
- Placement tests supported by clear scoring rubrics and analyses of student writing samples

- Focus on forms of writing frequently identified on state achievement tests
- Clearly defined writing forms with salient characteristics highlighted in graphic organizers

With this program, teachers assist students in developing more complex, sophisticated writing that meets grade-level and standardized testing achievement requirements.

*Making the Difference*<sup>SM</sup>

1-888-SRA-4543

Resources and ordering information at [SRAonline.com](http://SRAonline.com)



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