

UNEX Developing Written Skills



Title: The anonymous author

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Keywords: #writing skills, #writing stories, #writers,

Duration: Depending on the number of students. Approximately 30 mins.

Description:

This is a writing activity which provides an opportunity for the students to focus on their writing skills and to improve them while having the freedom to write about something that they love. Moreover, through this activity the students will get to know each other better. The activity is great for students between 8 and 14 years old.

Objectives:

1. Practicing grammar
2. Practicing vocabulary
3. Sentence structure
4. Creative writing
5. Writing a story
6. Focusing on understanding the text and on the same time finding grammar and vocabulary mistakes while reading

Activity(ies) (Stages):

1. Each student needs a piece of paper and a pen. In the beginning of the activity the teacher gives a writing topic to the students. The topic has to be related to the students' life and their activities on a daily basis. The titles of the topics have to be specific, such as: "My favorite memory from the summer holiday", "My favorite subject in school" etc.
2. When the topic is clear to everyone, the teacher explains to the students that they have 15 minutes to write a short story about the topic. The teacher can give to the students a specific amount of words to be written. The teacher has to set the timer and announce the beginning and the end of the writing.
3. When the time is up, every student folds over their paper and leave it in a box.
4. When all of the papers are in the box, the teacher has to mix them and each of the students has to pick up a paper, read it loud and guess who the author of the story is. The student who is reading the story has to mark the mistakes and if there is a need for correction in some of the structure of the sentences, the teacher has to start a discussion about it.

Tips for trainers

In order to save time, the teacher can give the writing topic as homework to the students and in class they can spend the time only on mixing the stories, reading them, making the corrections and guessing who the writer of the story is.

Moreover, if the students have to write the stories as a homework, they would have more time for it and the teacher can tell them to add pictures (from magazines) and drawings to support their writings in order to make the paper more creative and more exciting for the reader.

The teacher can give to the students a specific amount of words to be written. The approximately amount can be selected based on the age of the students, as more advanced students can have as a task to write longer texts.

The teacher takes the decision if the stories have to be written on papers by handwriting, or on computers, as they have to be printed afterwards.

List of resources, materials etc.

- Pens / pencils
- Paper for each of the students.
- An empty box

Evaluation/Feedback

The teacher will provide feedback on the applicability of the method.

The teacher evaluates students' comprehension ability during the activity, according to the written results.

During the reading part, if the teacher has doubts that some of the words are not correctly written, the teacher can ask the reader to spell it, and to make corrections if it's necessary.