



# Best practices

## 5 tips to maximize your students' literacy growth

WriteToLearn™ is an automated online literacy tool for building writing skills and developing reading comprehension. It supports your classroom teaching, saves you time, and provides immediate feedback to keep students engaged.

Follow these best practices to increase student writing proficiency using WriteToLearn.

### 1. Use WriteToLearn twice a week

With essay prompts and reading passages in language arts, science, social studies, and history, you can easily integrate writing across the curriculum. Students will not only become proficient writers but more knowledgeable in the subject areas.

In a randomized controlled trial, students using the summary writing component of WriteToLearn twice a week advanced a full grade level in their reading comprehension skills in as few as four weeks of use.

Continuous essay writing with immediate feedback leads to impressive student growth as well. In over four studies, students using the essay writing component experienced an average increase in proficiency of 46 percent on state and district tests.

### 2. Combine essay and summary activities

Better readers become better writers, and better writers become better readers. Students have to be able to read, comprehend, and synthesize information before they can write well. WriteToLearn's summary writing activities build necessary reading skills, scaffold the writing process, and prepare students to build persuasive arguments and write from multiple sources.

### 3. Select activities that best support your students

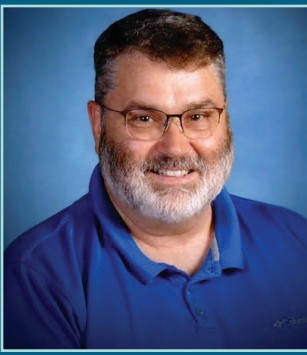
Choose from nearly 2,000 writing activities specifically designed for students of all ability levels. Accelerate language acquisition with reading passages and essay prompts designed for English learners. Use Lexile measurements and RMM values as a guideline for assigning reading passages of the proper text complexity. Select essay prompts with multiple source documents to support the rigor of college and career readiness.

### 4. Adjust scoring and feedback settings

Customize the learning experience for students or groups to help them progress to the next level. Change the scoring and feedback parameters, such as the number of writing attempts per assignment, support features, and adjust passing thresholds to encourage and challenge every learner.

### 5. Read reports frequently

WriteToLearn's at-a-glance reporting allows you to easily gauge your students' skills and understanding throughout the year. The Overview Report and Student Portfolios are examples of reports that help guide instruction and measure progress—for whole classes, small groups, and individuals.



# Jeff Pence

7th Grade English Language Arts Teacher  
Dean Rusk Middle School  
Canton, Georgia

Jeff Pence has enjoyed great success using WriteToLearn in his ELA classroom. He loves how the tool increases students' writing skills and practice time—while reducing grading time. What's not to love about that?

## Jeff's weekly writing routines

See how Jeff integrates WriteToLearn in his weekly lesson plans for summary and essay writing.

### Summary Week

| Monday                     | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Grammar lessons and review | Grammar reteaching, activities, and enrichment | Provide writing prompt, summary topic, and reading passage. Students take notes and draft by hand. | Students type their draft into WriteToLearn. They submit up to 3x for immediate feedback. | Students revise and edit in WriteToLearn. with up to 3 more feedbacks. They submit and publish their work. |

### Essay Week

| Monday                     | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Grammar lessons and review | Grammar reteaching, activities, and enrichment | Provide writing prompt. Students plan and draft by hand. | Students type their draft into WriteToLearn. They submit up to 3x for immediate feedback. | Students revise and edit in WriteToLearn. with up to 3 more feedbacks. They submit and publish their work. |

## A year of continuous growth

These reports depict a single student's writing progression throughout the academic school year. The report on the right reflects the student's scores on each of the six traits of writing along with an overall score. The student had access to writing support tools and was given multiple attempts along with feedback throughout. The report on the left reflects scores from the same student responding to the same prompt with just one attempt and all support tools turned off.

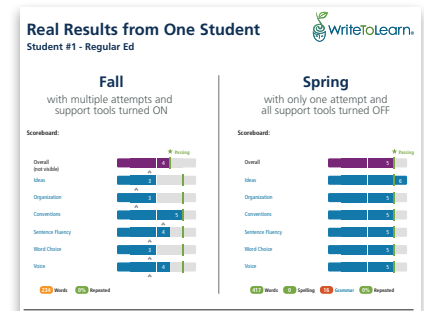
## Do you have 6,386 hours to spare?

Here's a breakdown how much writing Jeff's students did in one school year—and how much time WriteToLearn saved him.

- 129 students taught by Jeff
- 33 essays and summaries assigned per student
- 6 submissions per assignment
- 25,542 drafts evaluated with feedback
- 3,193 days to grade drafts by hand, 2 hours per day
- 6,386 hours saved by using WriteToLearn

## In his own words

Hear Jeff explain how WriteToLearn is improving his students' writing skills and preparing them for jobs of the future. Watch the video at [https://youtu.be/oMf\\_QUmIexM](https://youtu.be/oMf_QUmIexM)



Scoreboards show the progress of a real-life student throughout the school year.

## Contact Us

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