

Skills Covered in WriteShop I and II



Skills that are introduced OR reviewed and practiced	WriteShop I grades 7-11*	WriteShop II grades 8-12
BRAINSTORMING & ORGANIZING		
Narrow a topic from general to specific	✓	✓
Use brainstorming worksheets and graphic organizers	✓	✓
Use mindmaps and charts to plan and organize information	✓	✓
Answer <i>who, what, when, where, why, and how?</i>	✓	
Interview a subject about a personal experience	✓	
Make an outline		✓
STRUCTURE		
Write strong topic and closing sentences	✓	✓
Write complex sentences	✓	✓
Write a well-developed paragraph	✓	✓
Use transition words	✓	✓
Write a summary statement	✓	
Write a thesis statement		✓
Write 3- to 5-paragraph essays		✓
Use parallelism		✓
COMPOSITION WRITING		
Write original descriptive narratives and compositions	✓	✓
Start sentences in different ways and vary sentence length	✓	✓
Use concrete, descriptive vocabulary	✓	✓
Write concisely	✓	✓
Write in active voice and avoid “be” verbs	✓	✓
Use tense correctly	✓	✓
Choose a point of view	✓	✓
Develop voice and show emotion	✓	✓
Use figures of speech	✓	✓
NONFICTION AND ESSAY WRITING		
Differentiate between fact and opinion	✓	✓
Write informative/expository articles	✓	✓
Write personal narratives	✓	
Write persuasive, argumentative, compare/contrast, and descriptive essays		✓
Write timed essays		✓
Include an introduction, body, and conclusion		✓
EDITING AND REVISING		
Use a checklist to self-edit and revise own work	✓	✓
Use standard proofreading symbols during self-editing	✓	✓
Use a thesaurus to replace weak or repeated words	✓	✓

* Some 6th graders can use WriteShop I | writeshop.com