



The Five Paragraph Essay

I. The Steps

1. Review "What is a Paragraph?" Make sure the students understand that a paragraph is about ONE MAIN IDEA.
2. Teach the Three-Paragraph Essay in 60 seconds. Start your watch! Ready..Set..Go!
3. Prewriting Practice for the Three-Paragraph Essay. Creating your Three Main Ideas and listing your supporting details for each.
4. Introduction Paragraph – Make a thesis statement and give your three main ideas.
5. Conclusion Paragraph – Summarize your thesis statement, review your three main ideas, and say goodbye.
6. Putting it All Together
7. Timed Prompt Writing
8. Assess and Re-Teach as needed. Put the expert essay writers into "writer's workshop" activities while working with those who need a little more help.

Bells and Whistles

1. Teach Interesting Introductions
2. Teach Classy Conclusions
3. Teach Terrific Transitions

The Next Level – Tweaking the Essay to Fit All Domains and Genres

1. Narratives
2. Persuasive Essay
3. Problem-Solution Essay
4. Cause and Effect Essay
5. Research Reports