WRITING: APPLE ACTIVITY

BASIC PATTERNS OF THOUGHT DEVELOPMENT

Specific patterns

- □ PROCESS (How something works)
- □ NARRATIVE (How something happened)
- □ **DESCRIPTION** (How something/someone appears)
- □ COMPARISON (How two things are alike/different)
- □ CAUSE AND EFFECT (How one thing affects something else)
- □ PROBLEM SOLUTION (How a problem can be solved)
- □ CLASSIFICATION (How something can be categorised)
- ARGUMENTATION (How a position or an opinion can be asserted and supported)
- DEFINITION (How to explain or to make something clear and distinct)

DESCRIPTION

Description is painting pictures in words

- Use your five senses: see, hear, feel, taste, and smell give a description of the apple.
- Use: figures of speech: metaphors, similes, personifications.
- Vocabulary: fruit, shape (oval, round), taste (sweet, sour), feel (hard, smooth), colour (green, red, pink, yellow), ripe, juicy.
- Grammar focus: 1) link/copular verbs + Adj. 2)
 Degrees of Comparison (adjectives, adverbs)

DESCRIBING RULES

- 1. Before you describe sth: ask, "Why is it unique? What makes it special?" Focus your description on these details.
- 2. Be specific/ Choose exact, precise words: complain instead of say, cottage/manor/block of flats instead of house, etc.
- 3. Use vivid words to describe: scarlet instead of red, thoughtful instead of nice, etc.
- 4. Use words that appeal to human senses: see, hear, smell, feel, taste

DESCRIPTION: space markers

in the centre
to the left/right
beside
on the far right
next to
on the top
at the bottom

above
over
middle
halfway
between
below
under, etc.

DEFINITION

Definition – stating the meaning; making definite, distinct, or clear

Use your previous life experience and give a definition of the apple.

Name:

type/class/category
main characteristics and features
properties and peculiarities
qualities
family
conditions (of existence, living, growing, etc)
surrounding /environment
usage, etc.

DEFINITION: add-ons

- ☐ Terms that let us know that other important facts or details are coming.
- ☐ Add-ons signal us to look for main ideas.

also, and, another, besides, for example, for instance, further, furthermore, in addition, (even) more important, moreover, more than that, too, similarly, specially

NARRATIVE

Narrative is writing that relates an event or a series of events (a story or an account)

Tell how the apple turned to be here.

- Use your imagination and previous experience.
- Pay attention to the order of events and sequence.

NARRATIVE: time markers

- □ Help the reader keep track of the order in which events in a story take place
- ☐ Call attention to the main ideas

after, at about the sometime, at last, at the start, before, begin, during, earlier, finally, first, formerly, in the beginning, last, later, meanwhile, next, now, second, simultaneously, soon, then, toward the end, while, while this was going on.

CLASSIFICATION

Classifying is placing items in a group because they are similar or alike

Give your classification according to different principles. Group things according to size, shape, weight, or colour, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS (process)

Instructions are steps to follow in order to make

- Explain how to do something in a clear and sensible way
- ☐ Help us bake bread, take a test, or build a bookcase

DIRECTIONS (process)

Directions are steps to follow in order to go somewhere / or to get from one place to another

- ☐ Help to travel to a new place
- □ Need to be complete, yet clear and easy for the listener

GUIDELINES to instructions

- □ Be as clear, exact, and brief as possible.
- ☐ Give each step in the right order.
- Tell the person what to do first, second, and so on.

□ Use time-order words like next, after, now, soon, last.

COMPARISON and CONTRAST

Comparison is using examples to show how things are similar and different, with the greater emphasis on similarities

Contrast is using examples to show how things are different in one or more important ways.

COMPARISON and CONTRAST: both-sides signals

- Change the ideas in a sentence
- □ Tell you that the ideas in the second part of the sentence will be different from those in the first part
- Call attention to the ideas that come before them

although, anyhow, besides, but, by contrast, despite, even though, however, in fact, in particular, instead, nevertheless, on the other hand. yet, etc.

ARGUMENTATION

Argumentation is presenting reasons or arguments in a logical way.

Persuasion is prevailing on a person to do something by advising or urging

Give your personal point of view.

ARGUMENTATION: signal words

Pointers are signal words or phrases that indicate important points or main idea:

chief, chiefly, especially, mainly, most, most important, primarily, principal, principally etc

ARGUMENTATION: signal words

Summarisers and concluders are signal words and phrases that help us bring together thoughts that form main ideas:

apparently, as a result, clearly, consequently, in conclusion, in effect, obviously, so, therefore, thus, we can see, we have demonstrated, we have shown, etc.

PROBLEM-SOLVING

Main steps

- The problem is recognised and stated.
- Possible solution is suggested.
- The steps in solving the problem are given.
- There is proof that the solution is a good one.

BEFORE WRITING

- □ Think about the reason for writing. That is our purpose.
 - Why are we writing? To tell a story? To persuade someone about an opinion we have? To explain how to do something?
- □ Think about who will read. That is our audience. Who will read what we write? Will our reader be someone of our own age/younger/an adult? Consider your audience when you speak or write.
- □ Think about the style: formal/informal language.
- What form will you use (letter, article, essay)?

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Writing is thinking on paper. Writing is a way to make connections with the world outside us and our inner world

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