

Name of School:

Name of Course: **Writing Experiences**

### Instructor Information

**Name:**

**E-mail address:**

**School phone number:**

**Web page address:**

**Best times to be reached:**

### Course Description

*Writing Experiences* focuses on developing student writers by use of the process approach. Writing assignments of varying lengths and types include expository, descriptive, and narrative writing. This includes journal writing; writing based on literature; and speaking, listening, and viewing activities. Attention is given to organization, unity, coherence, sentence variety, and information retrieval.

### District Standards and Power Benchmarks

**Standard:** Students will apply reading, writing, and speaking skills to communicate effectively.

**Grade Level Benchmarks:**

- Students will be able to produce concise and effective writing through planning, revising, and editing.
- Students will be able to organize and develop ideas into coherent, multi-paragraph papers using transitional devices.
- Students will be able to employ *Pathways to Knowledge Research Model* throughout writings involving research.
- Students will be able to write for different audiences and purposes.
- Students will be able to analyze and evaluate a literary selection.

### Course Information

*Writing Experiences* is a one-term course with .5 credit awarded upon completion. There are no prerequisites for this course; however, it is strongly recommended that students have successfully completed *English 9* prior to taking *Writing Experiences*.

## Course Outline/Calendar

Major writing assignments will include: paragraph writing, timed writing, personal narrative, comparison/contrast, persuasive, critical analysis, and a research paper. Students will also be keeping a journal, studying vocabulary, and working on writing style. Vocabulary quizzes will be given with a final over all vocabulary words. The final will also include writing a paper. Pre-writing, rough drafts, and revisions must always be turned in along with the final copy. All writing will be done in the classroom.

**Week 1:** Discussion of class requirements, style sheet, writing process and parts of speech. Start discussion of paragraphing and timed writings. (Timed Writings will take place throughout the 9-week course.) Required academic vocabulary instruction.

**Week 2:** Continue with paragraphing

**Week 3:** Personal Narratives

**Week 4:** Comparison/Contrast

**Week 5:** Persuasive

**Week 6-8:** Research. A detailed calendar will be given to students to be shared with parents. Outside research will be required.

**Week 9:** Read novels: work on Critical Analysis

## Text/Other Required Materials/Resources

*Elements of Writing* (purple edition)

- spiral notebook/three-ring binder
- pencil, blue/black pens
- loose-leaf paper
- blue or black ink pens
- 10 cents a page printed in the LMC

## Additional Texts/Materials/Resources

## Instructional Procedures & Support

- A variety of teaching methods and strategies will be used, e.g., direct instruction, cooperative groups, graphic organizers, note taking, and framing.
- Students will receive verbal and written instructions for major assignments.
- Students may come in for additional assistance before or after school. A time should be arranged with the teacher in advance.
- Students will be given the opportunity to rewrite all papers with the exception of the critical analysis and the research paper.

## Classroom Management Procedures

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## Assessment Plan

Points are accumulated through class participation, worksheets, quizzes, and papers. Papers are worth more points than other activities; completing the writing assignments is essential.

<b>QUARTER</b>	<b>MIDTERM</b>	<b>END OF QUARTER</b>
Quarter 1	Tuesday, Sep. 25, 2007	Thursday, Oct. 25, 2007
Quarter 2	Friday, Nov. 30, 2007	Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2008
Quarter 3	Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2008	Friday, Mar. 21, 2008
Quarter 4	Wednesday, Apr. 30, 2008	Tuesday, Jun. 3, 2008

## Grading System

Grades are determined on a cumulative point system, which is then converted to a percentage. The Davenport Community Schools' district percentage grading scale is as follows:

- A: 92 – 100%
- B: 83 – 91%
- C: 68 – 82%
- D: 60 – 67%
- F: 59% and below