

Lesson Plan

Anticipatory Set

For the past week you and Mrs. Smith have been studying sentences and paragraphs.

Raise your hand if you can remember what a topic sentence is.

Let me see the hands of those who know what a closing statement is.

Today we are going to learn how to use a brainstorming exercise that will help us use these kinds of sentences to make expressive paragraphs.

Learning Objective

After a brainstorming activity, the student will create an expressive paragraph that includes a topic sentence, 3 supporting sentences with 3 detail sentences, and a closing statement.

Purpose

It is important to learn how to write an expressive paragraph because it is great practice for essay writing. The supporting and detail sentence will help the students to use more creative language, progressing their writing skills.

Learning Activity

First, an example of a brainstorming sheet and written paragraph that I created will be given to the students to look over. The step-by-step process of the brainstorming from the broad topic sentence to supporting and detailed sentences will be explained thoroughly.

I will explain that the sentences written on the brainstorming sheet can be revised when moving them into the paragraph if they find a better way to phrase them. It will also be explained that a closing sentence is needed. A closing sentence is a sentence that simply wraps up the paragraph.

Students will be shown model of each sentence type. Students will be shown a model of a completed expressive paragraph.

The second part of the learning activity will be filling out a blank brainstorming sheet. The topic is “Why I like Thanksgiving.” The exercise will be done together, but each student will have their own individual sentences.

In this part of the activity the class as a group will brainstorm:

- Broad topic sentences (will select one for class paragraph)
- Supporting sentences (Will select three for class paragraph)
- Detailed sentences (Will select three for class paragraph)
- Closing sentences (Will select one for class paragraph)

As the brainstorming and selection process is completed for each kind of sentence, I will write each selected sentence(s) on an overhead and have the students write each in their notebooks. This will provide each student with a completed example/model of an expressive paragraph.

Guided Practice

The class will be broken into small groups. Each group will use the brainstorming sheets, to create broad topic sentences, supporting sentences, detailed sentences, and closing sentences. Through brainstorming and selecting, each group will complete an eight sentence, expressive paragraph on their favorite meal.

Each group will exchange their paragraphs with another group for critique. Each paragraph will be shared with the whole class.

Independent Practice

The students will be assigned to pick their own topic to brainstorm. From their brainstormed topic, they will create an eight sentence, expressive paragraph. The paragraphs will be due next Tuesday.

Closure

What are the parts of an expressive paragraph?

What is a topic sentence?

What is a supporting sentence?

What is a detailed sentence?

What is a closing sentence?