

Personal Narrative Unit 4th Grade

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Mentor Author, Mentor Texts

The long-awaited magnum opus from Haruki Murakami, in which this revered and bestselling author gives us his hypnotically addictive, mind-bending ode to George Orwell's 1984. The year is 1984. Aomame is riding in a taxi on the expressway, in a hurry to carry out an assignment. Her work is not the kind that can be discussed in public. When they get tied up in traffic, the taxi driver suggests a bizarre 'proposal' to her. Having no other choice she agrees,

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but as a result of her actions she starts to feel as though she is gradually becoming detached from the real world. She has been on a top secret mission, and her next job leads her to encounter the superhuman founder of a religious cult. Meanwhile, Tengo is leading a nondescript life but wishes to become a writer. He inadvertently becomes involved in a strange disturbance that develops over a literary prize. While Aomame and Tengo impact on each other in various ways, at times by accident and at times intentionally, they come closer and closer to meeting. Eventually the two of them notice that they are indispensable to each other. Is it possible for them to ever meet in the real world?

My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother

Every Tuesday night, while his parents try to enjoy their dinner, a boy turns into a monster the moment a pea touches his lips.

Mr. Lincoln's Way

Twelve people set aside their fears and ride a roller coaster, including one who has never done so before.

A Moment in Time

Part of a series of units as part of a year-long curriculum based in primary writing.

The Literary Essay

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Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates.

Night of the Veggie Monster

When his Jewish parents send him to a Minnesota logging camp to escape the influenza epidemic of 1918, ten-year-old Marvin finds a special friend.

Authors as Mentors

The train tracks ran right by Bigmama's house in Cottondale, and the children were warned to stay off the tracks. But one night they were late, and the tracks were a shortcut, so they started off. And when there was no turning back, they heard the train coming.

Wonder

This series of books is designed to help upper elementary teachers teach a rigorous yearlong writing curriculum.

The Relatives Came

Ralph Fletcher has long mentored writing teachers—now he presents the ultimate mentor-text resource for teaching students to write. In *Mentor Author*, *Mentor Texts*, Ralph shares 24 short, high-interest

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texts and accompanying Writer's Notes with your students. Arranged from least difficult to most challenging, they are ready for writers at every level. Online, Ralph also provides whiteboard-ready versions of the texts as well as recordings where he reads 17 of his pieces. Mentor Author, Mentor Texts Includes: 24 mentor texts written by Ralph, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and more Writer's Notes that give students a peek into Ralph's thinking and craft Online access to whiteboard-ready versions of Ralph's mentor texts Online access to recordings of Ralph reading 17 of his pieces Suggestions from colleagues nationwide for using Ralph's texts in the classroom. Let your teaching mentor become your students' writing mentor with engaging mentor texts written and read by Ralph Fletcher "I wrote all 24 pieces in this book. You'll find an assortment of genres: stories, memoir, poems, essays, and excerpts from novels. The various texts are ordered from easiest (least challenging) to hardest (most challenging). I tried to select short, high-interest pieces. Each one stands on its own with a beginning, middle, and ending. I tried to choose pieces that would bring a sense of closure by the end." writer's notes that give students an inside peek into craft "My Writer's Notes introduce the text, explain my thinking behind various decisions, and point out a few things I want kids to notice. With certain pieces, especially the last three, I highlight revisions I made along the way. I tried hard not to take the mystery out of good writing. Instead these notes are my way of opening the door and leading the student into the text." and practical, classroom-tested suggestions like this from your colleagues "One of my students, Suzy, knows that she

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struggles to provide enough detail in her non-fiction pieces. For her piece about soccer, she told me that she knew she needed to include more details because she didn't want the reader to be confused. We had already read Ralph's "Squirring Wizards of Recycling," so we looked at the Writer's Notes. Ralph said he had brainstormed questions that readers may have had as they read about worm composting, and he then tried to include the answers to those questions in the piece. Suzy decided that she would write down questions that she thought her reader might still have about soccer and then make sure those questions were answered in her writing. Since both Suzy and I have already developed a relationship with Ralph through his texts, it felt like we were inviting an old friend to join our conference." -Kate Norem Morris, Teacher, The Bush School, Seattle, Washington

Writing for Readers

Day One I swam around my bowl. Day Two I swam around my bowl. Twice. And so it goes in this tell-all tale from a goldfish. With his bowl to himself and his simple routine, Goldfish loves his life..until one day When assorted intruders including a hyperactive bubbler, a grime-eating snail, a pair of amorous guppies, and a really crabby crab invade his personal space and bowl, Goldfish is put out, to say the least. He wants none of it, preferring his former peace and quiet and solitude. But time away from his new companions gives him a chance to rethink the pros and cons of a solitary life. And discover what he's

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been missing. Devin Scillian is an award-winning author and Emmy award-winning broadcast journalist. He has written more than 10 books with Sleeping Bear Press, including the bestselling *A is for America: An American Alphabet* and *Brewster the Rooster*. Devin lives in Michigan and anchors the news for WDIV-TV in Detroit. Early in his career Tim Bowers worked for Hallmark Cards, helping to launch the Shoebox Greetings card line. He has illustrated more than 25 children's books, garnering such awards as the Chicago Public Library's "Best of the Best" list. He also illustrated the widely popular *First Dog*. Tim lives in Granville, Ohio.

An A From Miss Keller

Bringing History to Life

Each member of a family enjoys his or her special moment in time on a balmy summer day on Cape Cod.

Grandfather's Journey (Read-aloud)

Tommy is four years old, and he loves visiting the home of his grandmother, Nana Downstairs, and his great-grandmother, Nana Upstairs. But one day Tommy's mother tells him Nana Upstairs won't be there anymore, and Tommy must struggle with saying good-bye to someone he loves. Updated with new, full-color illustrations, this classic story will continue to win the hearts of readers of all ages."Children will

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want to hear this again and again." --School Library Journal, starred review "A quietly touching story that depicts loving family relationships." --Publishers Weekly

Razzle Dazzle Writing

When Mr. Lincoln, "the coolest principal in the whole world," discovers that Eugene, the school bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance.

Sarah, Plain and Tall

A classic tale by Newbery Medalist Kate DiCamillo, America's beloved storyteller. One summer's day, ten-year-old India Opal Buloni goes down to the local supermarket for some groceries - and comes home with a dog. But Winn-Dixie is no ordinary dog. It's because of Winn-Dixie that Opal begins to make friends. And it's because of Winn-Dixie that she finally dares to ask her father about her mother, who left when Opal was three. In fact, as Opal admits, just about everything that happens that summer is because of Winn-Dixie. Featuring a new cover illustration by E. B. Lewis and an excerpt of Kate DiCamillo's newest novel, *Raymie Nightingale*.

Roller Coaster

There's nothing worse than a rotten redheaded older brother who can do everything you can do better! Patricia's brother Richard could run the fastest, climb

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the highest, and spit the farthest and still smile his extra-rotten, greeny-toothed, weasel-eyed grin. But when little Patricia wishes on a shooting star that she could do something—anything—to show him up, she finds out just what wishes—and rotten redheaded older brothers—can really do. Patricia Polacco's boldly and exuberantly painted pictures tell a lively and warmhearted tale of comic one-upsmanship and brotherly love.

Boxes and Bullets

A chance encounter with Harry Houdini leaves a small boy in possession of a mysterious box--one that might hold the secrets to the greatest magic tricks ever performed.

Pictures from Our Vacation

This series of books is designed to help upper elementary teachers teach a rigorous yearlong writing curriculum.

26 Fairmount Avenue

A language arts and math teacher have teamed together to create technology-rich lessons that teach the key literacy skills and strategies demanded by the CCSS in a highly motivating way. Use digital storytelling to retell myths, go on a geometry scavenger hunt, create a travel “commercial” for a historical place, and so much more. Tap into the power of wikis to facilitate literature discussions, build

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background knowledge with inquiry circles in science, collect practical applications of math concepts, present research on history topics—and that’s just the beginning! With model lessons and dozens of lesson ideas for every content area, how-to’s for getting started with the technology, assessment tips, and student samples on the enclosed CD, you’ll find everything you need to teach with technology today! For use with Grades 5 & Up.

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This series of books is designed to help upper elementary teachers teach a rigorous yearlong writing curriculum.

Owl Moon

Snap! With their new cameras Snap! a brother and sister Snap! take pictures of their vacation. But when they look at their photographs they see: 1. The back of Dad's head 2. Feet 3. A container of noodles That's it? Does $1 + 2 + 3 =$ summer vacation? What about how it felt to swim in the lake? What about the stories their cousins told and the taste of a just-invented strawberry and whipped cream dessert? For those memories—the memories of summer and the memories of family that mean the most—they need to look someplace else. Someplace deep inside. Someplace permanent.

Literacy Lessons for a Digital World

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Part of a year-long curriculum of units about primary writing

Small Moments

From Dav Pilkey, creator of the New York Times bestselling Dog Man and Captain Underpants series, comes Oscar, a little dog with a big bullying problem.

Marven of the Great North Woods

Lucy Calkins discusses how to teach writing and how children develop as writers; she stresses the importance of staff development for teachers of writing.

The Writing Workshop

How did Patricia Polacco become a writer? A perfect companion to the classic Thank You, Mr. Falker, The Art of Miss Chew, and Mr. Wayne's Masterpiece, this book celebrates a teacher who inspired a young Patricia Polacco to become the writer and storyteller she is today. Trisha is nervous about being chosen for Miss Keller's writing class. "Killer Keller" demands that her students dazzle her with their writing, and rumor has it that she has never given an A. The rumors turn out to be all too true—there's just no pleasing Miss Keller. Then an unexpected loss leaves Trisha heartbroken. Thoughts of teachers and grades forgotten, she pours out her soul in a personal narrative. And when Miss Keller reads it, she tells Trisha, "You've given your words wings."

A Christmas Memory

Sisters, Caitland and Cassidy take the ferry one summer night. Under the light of the full moon, the fog rolls in and tiny, glowing lights surround them on the upper deck of the boat. "Fireflies!" Caitland whispers in trembling excitement. "Get them!" Then they begin to make one of the biggest mistakes of their lives.

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

A Newbery Honor Book Tomie's family starts building their new house at 26 Fairmount Avenue in 1938, just as a hurricane hits town, starting off a busy, crazy year. Tomie has many adventures all his own, including eating chocolate with his Nana Upstairs, only to find out--the hard way--that they have eaten chocolate laxative. He tries to skip kindergarten when he finds out he won't learn to read until first grade. "I'll be back next year," he says. When Tomie goes to see Snow White, he creates another sensation. Tomie dePaola's childhood memories are hilarious, and his charming illustrations are sure to please. "A thoroughly entertaining and charming story."—School Library Journal "DePaola successfully evokes the voice of a precocious, inquisitive five-year-old everyone would want to befriend. Charming black-and-white illustrations animate the scenes and add a period flare, including a photo album-like assemblage of the characters' portraits at the book's start."—Publishers weekly

The Hallo-Wiener

Harvey tackles a big job: cleaning his room.

Mooseltoe

"Did Mama sing every day?" Caleb asks his sister Anna. "Every-single-day," she answers. "Papa sang, too." Their mother died the day after Caleb was born. Their house on the prairie is quiet now, and Papa doesn't sing anymore. Then Papa puts an ad in the paper, asking for a wife, and he receives a letter from one Sarah Elisabeth Wheaton, of Maine. Papa, Anna, and Caleb write back. Caleb asks if she sings. Sarah decides to come for a month. She writes Papa: I will come by train. I will wear a yellow bonnet. I am plain and tall, and Tell them I sing. Anna and Caleb wait and wonder. Will Sarah be nice? Will she like them? Will she stay?

The Great Mouse Plot

Babysitting mishaps, lazy summer days by the lake, and silly childhood pranks are remembered in this amusing memoir of the life of an adventurous young boy growing up in a family with six brothers. Simultaneous.

Shortcut

The Skin I'm in

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Maleeka suffers every day from the taunts of the other kids in her class. If they're not getting at her about her homemade clothes or her good grades, it's about her dark, black skin. When a new teacher, whose face is blotched with a startling white patch, starts at their school, Maleeka can see there is bound to be trouble for her too. But the new teacher's attitude surprises Maleeka. Miss Saunders loves the skin she's in. Can Maleeka learn to do the same?

The Houdini Box

"Good writing is more than we say; it is how we say it. This book shows how to master fifty key target skills that will improve their writing and raise their assessment scores."--Editor.

Memoirs of a Goldfish

On a day when everything goes wrong for him, Alexander is consoled by the thought that other people have bad days too.

Knucklehead

After she falls headfirst into a bird's nest, a baby bat is raised like a bird until she is reunited with her mother. On board pages.

Because of Winn-Dixie

The relatives come to visit from Virginia and everyone has a wonderful time.

Clean Your Room Harvey Moon

Written in a rhyme and rhythm that echoes Clement Moore's classic poem, this sweet story about a Moose who is determined to celebrate the holiday just right is guaranteed to have children chuckling as they follow Moose through his preparations and the realization of a huge "moosetake" he's made, to the goofy but perfectly perfect solution to his problem. Reprint.

Nana Upstairs and Nana Downstairs

When he was a young man, Allen Say's grandfather left his home in Japan to explore the world. He began his journey by crossing the Pacific Ocean on a steamship, then wandered the deserts, farmlands, and cities of North America. Allen Say lovingly tells the story of his own family's cross-cultural history in elegant watercolor paintings that earned him a Caldecott Medal in 1994. This twentieth-anniversary edition of the modern classic features read-aloud audio and an introduction by Allen Say.

Fireflies

A reminiscence of a Christmas shared by a seven-year-old boy and a sixtyish childlike woman, with enormous love and friendship between them.

Stellaluna

On a winter's night under a full moon, a father and

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daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl.

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