

Styles of Writing

This activity is a revision of an activity originally devised some time ago for Year 7. We first tried it out at with Year 5 at Arkwright School down in the Meadows in Nottingham. It worked quite well and as a result we have introduced some changes. Please try it and feed back your comments and versions of the activity. Probably the best versions are the ones where children have produced their own versions of the cards - working collaboratively of course!

We have produced two versions of the game board. Both need to be enlarged to A3.

The webaddress for this activity is:

<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/stylesofwriting.pdf>

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COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

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We support a network of teaching professionals throughout the European Union to promote inclusive education. We develop and disseminate accessible talk-for-learning activities in all subject areas and for all ages.

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF BASIC PRINCIPLES BEHIND OUR TEACHING ACTIVITIES:

The project is a teacher network, and a non-profit making educational trust. Our main aim is to develop and disseminate classroom tested examples of effective group strategies that promote talk across all phases and subjects. We hope they will inspire you to develop and use similar strategies in other topics and curriculum areas. We want to encourage you to change them and adapt them to your classroom and students. We run teacher workshops, swapshops and conferences throughout the European Union. The project posts online many activities in all subject areas. An online newsletter is also updated regularly.

*These activities are influenced by current thinking about the role of language in learning. They are designed to help children learn through talk and active learning in small groups. They work best in non selective classes where children in need of language or learning support are integrated. They are well suited for the development of speaking and listening . They provide teachers opportunities for assessment of speaking and listening.

*They support differentiation by placing a high value on what children can offer to each other on a particular topic, and also give children the chance to respect each other's views and formulate shared opinions which they can disseminate to peers. By helping them to take ideas and abstract concepts, discuss, paraphrase and move them about physically, they help to develop thinking skills.

*They give children the opportunity to participate in their own words and language in their own time without pressure. Many activities can be tried out in pupils' first languages and afterwards in English. A growing number of activities are available in more than one language, not translated, but mixed, so that you may need more than one language to complete the activity.

*They encourage study skills in context, and should therefore be used with a range of appropriate information books which are preferably within reach in the classroom.

*They are generally adaptable over a wide age range because children can bring their own knowledge to an activity and refer to books at an appropriate level. The activities work like catalysts.

*All project activities were planned and developed by teachers working together, and the main reason they are disseminated is to encourage teachers to work more effectively with each other inside and outside the classroom. They have made it possible for mainstream and language and learning support teachers to share an equal role in curriculum delivery. They should be adapted to local conditions. In order to help us keep pace with curriculum changes, please send any new or revised activities back to the project, so that we can add them to our lists of materials.

Styles of Writing Sorting Board and Connect Four Game

Pupil Instructions.

1. Work in pairs. Take one set of cards. Use the sorting board to sort them into eight sets. Were there any cards which you think will fit into more than one set? Put them on one side for our discussion.
2. Use the blank cards and try to write something in each of the different styles of writing. Add your own cards to the pile for when you play the game.
3. Now find another pair who have cards with a different colour. You also need a Connect Four game board. Use your cards to play Connect Four.

Styles of Writing: Sorting Board

<p>Persuasive Writing</p> <p>writing to persuade someone to do something or to see your point of view</p>	<p>Fictional Narrative</p> <p>writing to tell a story with events happening</p>	<p>Description</p> <p>writing to describe a thing or person</p>	<p>Instructions</p> <p>writing to tell someone how to do something</p>
<p>Poetry</p> <p>poetry: writing which helps you to see things in a new way.</p>	<p>Narrative/Recount</p> <p>writing which tells you about something that really happened</p>	<p>Diary</p> <p>writing to yourself about your feelings and doings</p>	<p>Drama/Dialogue</p> <p>writing that is meant to be spoken or acted out</p>

How to Play "Style of Writing Connect Four"

The Aim of the Game is to get four cards in your colour on the board either horizontally, diagonally or vertically.

Equipment:

You need a game board. You can either enlarge the ones we have provided or you can make a more decorative one of your own. You also need two sets of cards in two different colours. Don't forget to add the cards you have written yourself.

How to Play:

One pair should play against another pair. First exchange your card sets. Place the card sets in two piles. The first pair should pick a card from their pile and place it on the board where they think it should go. Some cards will fit on more than one kind of writing. They have to justify their choice to the other pair who have to agree. First pair to get four in a row horizontally, vertically or diagonally wins.

Styles of Writing Connect Four Game Board One

writing to persuade someone to do something or to see your point of view	writing to tell a story	writing to describe a thing or person	writing to tell someone how to do something	poetry: writing which helps you to see things in a new way.	writing which tells you about something that really happened
writing to yourself about your feelings and doings	writing that is meant to be acted out	writing to persuade someone to do something or to see your point of view	writing to tell a story	writing to describe a thing or person	writing to tell someone how to do something
poetry: writing which helps you to see things in a new way.	writing which tells you about something that really happened	writing to yourself about your feelings and doings	writing that is meant to be acted out	writing to persuade someone to do something or to see your point of view	writing to tell a story
writing to describe a thing or person	writing to tell someone how to do something	poetry: writing which helps you to see things in a new way.	writing which tells you about something that really happened	writing to yourself about your feelings and doings	writing that is meant to be acted out
writing to persuade someone to do something or to see your point of view	writing to tell a story	writing to describe a thing or person	writing to tell someone how to do something	poetry: writing which helps you to see things in a new way.	writing which tells you about something that really happened

Styles of Writing Connect Four Game Board Two

Persuasive Writing	Fictional Narrative	Description	Instructions	Poetry	Narrative/Recount
Diary	Drama/Dialogue	Persuasive Writing	Fictional Narrative	Description	Instructions
Poetry	Narrative/Recount	Diary	Drama/Dialogue	Persuasive Writing	Fictional Narrative
Description	Instructions	Poetry	Narrative/Recount	Diary	Drama/Dialogue
Persuasive Writing	Fictional Narrative	Description	Instructions	Poetry	Narrative/Recount

Styles of Writing Connect Four Game Cards

heartless thieves stole Liverpool octogenarion's prize tomato last night.	Stores say this is going to be a record Christmas.	I tasted the Queen's breakfast marmalade.	For the third time running the Tigers have won the Heelturners Cup.	At least a hundred people attended the meeting about the new tram line.	The police say that they are looking into the matter.
You need a whisk, and flat wooden spoon and two bowls.	Make sure that it is completely cool before you roll it out.	Switch off the electricity before you begin.	Place tab A into slot A, bend and glue carefully	Stir the potato carefully to prevent it sticking to the bottom of the pan.	Please be certain that you have located and identified all the parts before you begin assembly
Meanwhile back at the castle a wicked plot was being hatched by the evil duke.	I have to take you back a few months to explain how this meeting took place.	Now we shall leave the happy couple to enjoy their time together.	Suddenly there was a loud knock at the door	In a distant country a long time ago there lived a tall giant.	...and they all lived happily ever after.
She was pale and interesting. She wore a black dress and green ear rings.	His fluffy beard flowed generously down to his shoulders	The tip of his nose was very red, as were his cheeks.	Her fingers were always restless; tapping complicated tunes on the tops of tables.	His head was big in relation to his body, and his feet were enormous.	He had twinkly eyes, a long white beard and a bright red suit.
"Tomorrow is my daughter's wedding day!"	"You must all come to the library. I have to tell you something important"	(she turns away and buries her head in her hands)	"Did you say that you were found in a bag at the railway station?"	"I would like to point out that though I am dressed as a man, I am really a woman."	"Romeo! Romeo! Wherefore art thou Romeo?"

Styles of Writing Connect Four Game Cards

My love is like a red, red rose	I wish I lived in a caravan, With a horse to ride like a pedlar man.	Twinkle twinkle little star, How I wonder what you are.	I wandered lonely as a cloud.	There was a young lady from Riga, Who went for a ride on a tiger.	Down among the dustbins was a dog called Jim. He doesn't know me and I.....
I woke up early and felt hungry at once.	Today has been such an exciting day.	..and so to bed	I went out for a walk while waiting for my porridge to cool.	So much has happened today that I do not know where to start writing.	What a boring day! I can't think of anything to write about.
I would like to point out that not everyone agrees with you.	On the other hand many people prefer brown bread.	First I would like to explain why I support this idea.	The main reasons I disagree can be summed up like this.	I hope to persuade you to agree with my very clever idea.	Do not be put off by its shocking appearance. It is really a very friendly animal..

Styles of Writing Connect Four Game Cards
