

*Differentiated  
Writing Instruction  
Proven to Improve  
the Writing Skills  
of ELL Students in  
Grades 4-12, and  
Adult Learners*

# WAKING MINDS WRITING

Waking Minds, Writing (**WM**) is a web-based, supplemental writing program to help English Language Learners (ELLs) develop the ability to express their ideas in writing—an ability that has far-reaching impact across the content areas. **WM** employs a recursive writing process to teach academic and creative writing across the genres: expository, persuasive, narrative, literary, response, business, and research. The program stresses the communication of ideas, while providing instruction in foundational skills such as grammar, mechanics, style, and structure. And unlike any other writing program, **WM** provides students with evaluative and individualized feedback from a highly qualified tutor.

Using research-based techniques specifically designed to engage all proficiency levels of readers and writers, **WM** supports the development and improvement of student writing with three instructional paths:

- ▶ **Writer's Guide:** Includes instruction, examples, audio support and test items for over 150 writing objectives in the areas of grammar, mechanics, style, substance, and structure to help students master these critical objectives
- ▶ **Writing Practice:** Provides extensive practice in every phase of the writing process, with over 600 leveled prompts, over 170 companion reading sources, over 25 writing templates for every type of writing, audio-supported annotated student samples, and checklists for each step of the process for every writing type
- ▶ **Writing Assessment:** Simulates your state-wide writing test experience so students become familiar with the assessment format and are more confident on test day. It also provides individualized and instructive feedback for every essay from highly-qualified writing tutors so students may revise their work, and teachers have access to highly detailed formative assessment information for each student.

*"I commend the Waking Minds, Writing program for its effectiveness and capacity to bring about great results in a short period of time. The level of improvement achieved by my students just during the FCAT crunch last academic year was far beyond my expectations."*

Manuel Garcia — ELL Department  
John A. Ferguson High School



*Aligned to IRA, NCTE,  
TESOL, NAEP, and State  
Standards*

*“American education will never realize its potential as an engine of opportunity and economic growth until a writing revolution puts language and communication in their proper place in the classroom. Writing is how students connect the dots in their knowledge.”*

*National Commission on Writing, 2006*

**Waking Minds, Writing** includes features proven to help ELL students and their peers at all proficiency levels from emergent to expert:

- ▶ Over 600 leveled writing prompts for emergent, basic, proficient, and expert proficiency levels
- ▶ Lexile© measured reading sources for each writing prompt, down to grade 1
- ▶ Templates and models that provide scaffolded learning
- ▶ Audio support of all instruction
- ▶ Classroom discussion activities to develop oral communication, fluency, and elaboration
- ▶ Focus on academic writing across the content areas
- ▶ Student videos to model affective behaviors
- ▶ Audio-supported annotated sample student essays model good writing and communication techniques

Videos, checklists, templates, essays graded against your state’s writing test rubric, and direct instruction all give students ample support as they develop their writing skills. More than 600 writing prompts allow students to practice writing while they improve foundational skills and strategies across a variety of genres including personal narratives, book reviews, essays, opinion pieces, articles, poems, lab reports, and research papers. **WM** includes several forms of informative assessment feedback, such as performance reports on challenge tests, portfolio progress, and writing submissions, as well as self-evaluation and evaluation by peers and classroom teachers through checklists and rubrics.

### **Tracking and Reporting**

All data from student interactions including performance on Challenge Tests and Writing Assessments are available in a variety of reports for students, teachers, and administrators at the individual, classroom, school, district, or state level.

### **Professional Development**

Professional growth opportunities are available from CDI America. We can help you:

- ▶ Improve student motivation and confidence
- ▶ Help students develop critical thinking skills
- ▶ Provide effective feedback to student writing and differentiate activities based on learning styles and reading levels at our 5-day PD institute
- ▶ Use formative assessment to drive instruction
- ▶ Better manage student assignments

Designed to be used in a variety of implementation models—whole class, small group, individual, teacher directed, or student directed—**Waking Minds, Writing** provides the instruction, support, and time on task required to develop sustainable learning and confident writers.

**CDIAmerica**

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