

Pacemaker English Composition

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Do you want to improve your writing skills and produce great articles or written compositions? Then, “Pacemaker English Composition” is a great resource to consider for your writing needs. This book is published by Globe Fearon Educational Publishing Company in 2002 with 439 pages that offer a step-by-step guide to simple but effective writing.

Unit 1 explains in detail the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Prewriting discusses the planning stage with the necessary skills as brainstorming, choosing the topic and organizing ideas. It also includes drafting where choice of words or sentences must agree with the purpose and writer’s target audience; revising which shows that one-time writing isn’t enough for a good writing product; editing which provides various techniques in editing such as the use of proofreading marks, editing checklist, etc.; and finally publishing which provides the audience with a chance to give their feedbacks for improvement. This entire unit provides eye-opening thoughts on the proper steps of composition writing.

Unit 2 focuses on writing sentences- the definition and the structure; the distinct features like fragments and run-ons; and the different kinds of sentences. It also provides suggestions for writing better sentences. The wide range of assessment activities is beneficial to teachers as well as to a particular group of learners who frequently make mistakes in writing sentences

Unit 3 explores the rigorous process of paragraph writing. Topics like paragraph definition, ways to write good paragraphs, and improving paragraphs are highlighted. This unit presents different paragraphs for students to practice identifying topic sentences, supporting details, and concluding sentences. It also provides suggestions on writing creatively and making the topic sentence interesting.

Unit 4 expounds the topic on paragraphs with emphasis on the purpose of the writer. This whole unit informs the learners about paragraphs that are intended to explain, to inform, and to tell a story and identifies other different types of paragraphs such as explanatory, informative, narrative, persuasive, descriptive and comparative paragraphs. Tips on how to write these kinds of paragraphs are also listed together with some writing activities for students' writing enhancement.

Unit 5 concentrates on writing essays – the basic, the good, and the better essays. This unit stresses the basic components of an essay that includes an introductory paragraph, the body paragraphs, and the concluding paragraph that wraps up the essay discussion. Sample essays were provided for the learners to familiarize themselves with the organizational structure of essays and end with an activity where the learners develop their own essays. Some suggestions given by the author include choosing essays that match one's purpose in writing and using outlining to make the writing more manageable. Checklists at the end of the unit are beneficial for the learners to evaluate their essays and improve areas that require further revisions.

Unit 6 is on practical writing and its types such as friendly letter as well as the business letter. Sample letters are provided with writing format and the proper ways to address an envelope. Writing application letters, filling out a job application forms, and composing an impressive resume are presented and discussed explicitly and wraps up all there is to know about letters with a series of topics on everyday writing tasks such as notes (thank you, get well, and sympathy), invitations, and advertisements. The details on these types of letters accompanied by ample examples and practice activities complete the required knowledge that every learner need to know.

Unit 7 emphasizes written texts usually required in schools. The author prioritizes different writing school tasks like book report writing, writing answers on different exams, and writing a report. This unit discusses essential elements of a book report such as the setting, characters, and plot including different steps on how to develop a meaningful and informative book reports, explores various examination answering styles such as short answer test items and essay type of exams and explains about report writing. Some terms and suggestions are of great help to the learners to achieve the writing goals no matter how complicated they may be. Situational writing practices and activities enhance the learners' knowledge and skills in writing.

Unit 8 centers on creative and imaginative writing. It addresses creating characters, writing a story, and writing poetry respectively. It also explains how to create unique or distinct story characters through different strategies and covers the other elements of story writing such as the setting of the story, mood, and plot. Samples for learners' critical judgment and tasks are specified to expose them to the first-hand story writing experience.

To sum up, this book provides a wealth of knowledge on writing for beginner writers and second language learners. Moreover, it is a very helpful tool for writing teachers. It includes useful features such as chapter summary, vocabulary review, quiz, and student practice activities. Such well-thought features are, indeed, helpful to writing teachers in planning and constructing their daily lessons. Not only are the activities easy to follow but they are also meaningful as they deal with practical and useful writing texts. Also, the pre, during, and post chapter writing activities are truly beneficial for learners as they provide context-laden experiences for learners to easily recall fundamental concepts necessary in the writing process. The different practical writing activities will also cultivate the students' critical skills as they accomplish their writing tasks. Moreover, the knowledge of organizing ideas is practiced and their learned thoughts are stirred. Utilizing this book, students can identify what kind of writers they would be and how they can further strengthen and develop themselves to be successful writers in the future. This book inevitably addresses the needs of the fast-changing environment that we live as it provides the required blend of both formal and informal writing activities for learners and establishes a non-monotonous, fun-filled writing atmosphere where learners can feel the pleasure and enjoyment of writing.

Pacemaker English Composition. (2002). New Jersey: Globe Fearon Educational Publisher.