



Yale-New Haven
Teachers Institute®

Curriculum Units by Fellows of the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute
1979 Volume IV: Language and Writing

Writing Through Reading

Guide for Curriculum Unit 79.04.01
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This unit, designed to improve basic writing skills, is to be used to supplement other kinds of writing as well as the study of grammar and sentence structure. This writing unit is based on a method of writing represented by Robert Gay in his book "Writing Through Reading." The approach incorporates methods and exercises in different kinds of rewriting or retelling another person's thoughts. Through the processes of transcribing, translating, paraphrasing, condensing, and imitating, students can learn to reproduce in writing the thoughts of others. The project is designed to be used mainly as independent classwork that grows out of small groups established early in the school year. Sample assignments covering transcription, translation, paraphrase, condensation and imitation are followed by a list of materials for classroom use, a student reading list, and a bibliography for teachers.

(Designed for middle school English classes; the unit can be used throughout the school year.)

Key Words

General Writing Instruction

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