

Syllabus for Middle School Writing Foundations 3: Informative Writing

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Format: Self-Paced

Course Description: This class focuses on elements of effective informative writing including choosing and integrating direct quotations from source material, paraphrasing information, and synthesizing multiple sources into a single informative piece.

Course Goals: This class aims to be individualized in that it meets learners at their current writing ability and experience levels. It also offers student choice in assignment topics and approaches. This means that students will, to some extent, work on individual writing goals to address their own specific interests and needs. In general, learners completing this course will be able to:

- Recognize and explain the purpose of informative writing as it relates to an audience
- Identify what makes a direct quote effective or ineffective
- Integrate effective direct quotes into their own writing
- Paraphrase information ethically and accurately
- Combine information from multiple sources (in the form of direct quotes and paraphrases) into a single, cohesive informative piece of original writing

Assignments: Students will complete a variety of assignments each aimed at meeting and integrating different course goals. These include the following:

- Reflection 1: What is Informative Writing?
- Direct Quotation Exercise
- Paraphrase Exercise
- Rough Draft of Synthesis Paper
- Final Draft of Synthesis Paper
- Reflection 2: What Have I Learned?



Course Schedule: The recommended schedule for this course takes place over 8 weeks.

	Topic	Homework to Complete	Writing Assignments
Week 1	What is informative writing		Reflection 1
Week 2	Direct Quotations	Direct Quotation Exercise	
Week 3	Direct Quotations and Citations		
Week 4	Paraphrase	Paraphrase Exercise	
Week 5	Paraphrase and Citations		
Week 6	Synthesis	Draft Final Paper	Final Paper Rough Draft
Week 7	Revision	Revise Final Paper	
Week 8	Reflection and Looking Ahead		Final Draft Reflection 2