# Revisiting a vertical framework for the writing curriculum: a closer look at what makes or breaks its implementation

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# Run-down

Part 1	Revisiting the vertical framework
Part 2	<ul> <li>Teachers' sharing:</li> <li>A. Explicit teaching and scaffolding at one level</li> <li>B. Recycling and scaffolding within a unit</li> <li>C. Facilitating purposeful and progressive learning through scaffolding across levels</li> </ul>
Part 3	Conclusion

# A good school-based writing curriculum

- should ensure smooth transition for students to move from one grade to another (Saylor & Alexander,1966)
- should enable students to build on what they have previously learned and develop essential writing skills and strategies progressively from P.1 to P.6
- should promote continuity of experience
- should include specific focuses (writing skills and strategies) at each level (P.1-P.6), which should be made known to both teachers and students
- strategies such as scaffolding and recycling should be in place

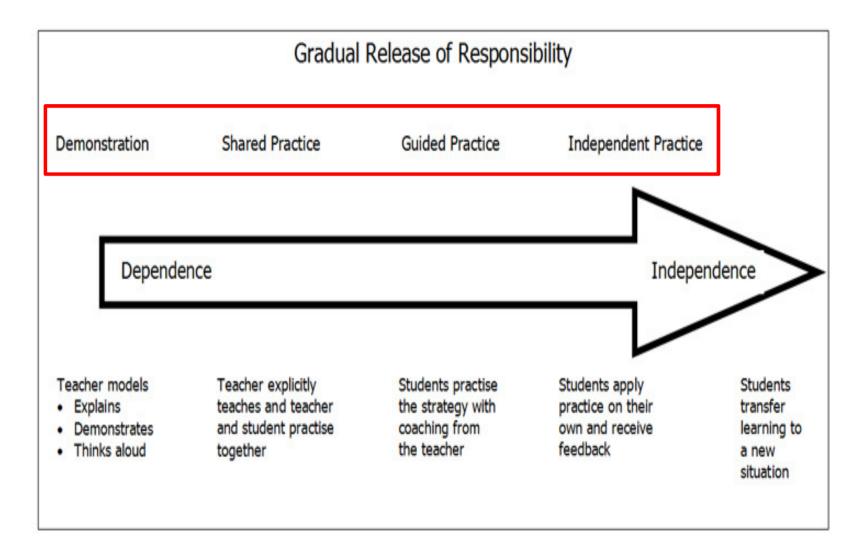
# **Vertical framework**

				Teaching l		oss P.1 to P	-	-					_	
Teaching Focuses	P.1	P.2	2		P.3		P.4		P.5		P.6			
Totusts				Writing	a range of te	xt types (main	ılv descriptiv	ve)						
Writing conventions	<ul> <li>Write from 1 right and fro bottom of th</li> <li>Recognise c spacing of le words and si</li> <li>Use capital 1 the beginnin names of pe titles</li> <li>Use full stop end of sente</li> </ul>	m top to e page orrect etters, entences etters at g of the ople and os at the	people and ti	orrect spacing rds and the names of the names of tles s at the end of pper and tters in correctly itences into a ing correct	<ul> <li>Use approp</li> </ul>	riate formats tions of short	<ul> <li>Use the base convention English</li> <li>use cursiv</li> <li>use parage capitalizat conventio punctuation</li> </ul>	ic s of written rescript raphs, tion and nal	<ul> <li>Use the bas convention written Eng</li> <li>use cursiv</li> <li>use paragg capitalizat convention punctuation</li> </ul>	s of dish ve script raphs, tion and nal	<ul> <li>Use the bas convention written Eng</li> <li>use cursiv</li> <li>use parag capitalizat conventio punctuatio</li> </ul>	s of lish rescript raphs, ion and nal		
		orrectly	punctuation.										Difficult le	ve
The planning of writing	Teaching Focuses	P.1		P.2		P.3		P.4		P.5		P.6		
	The use of cohesive devices	<ul> <li>◆ Use 'and ideas at the level</li> <li>◆ Use pronestablish</li> </ul>	the sentence nouns to	<ul> <li>Use 'and', and "too" t similar and ideas</li> <li>Use pronot links</li> </ul>	o connect contrasting		<u> </u>	cohesiv	nall range of e devices to :ideas (e.g. first, nally, before, rring)	cohe conn howe so th	a small range of sive devices to ect ideas (e.g. if, ever, when, so, at, in the past, adays)	range devic more altho	olish links using a e cohesive ces (e.g. cover, in addition, ugh, besides, y, neither nor)	
	Elaboration	<ul> <li>Use simp adjactive</li> </ul>	ple es to describe	Focuses		P.1		P.2	P.3	3		P.4		]
Paragraphing nd rrganization Word choice/ Sentence variety/ Language wariety/ Language back the sentences to characters, sentences to characters, sentences to characters, sentences to characters, sentences to characters, short a connect through and stor Characters, short a characters,		eness of trive ture and al sections igh reading story-telling simple trives to ribe people, als, (e.g. tall t, fat, thin, l, big, long t) and cts (e.g. red,	– k	-	ssion c edge ar	of	tives or recounts							
	and style	express	11045	Story ending	awar story from	elop the eness of r endings r eading ide words or								
	Tenses		mple present and simple	The use of dialogues	fill in bubb pictu	les for								

## **Use of writing frames**

- Writing frames help teachers plan how to guide students to use what they have learned
- Writing frames help break down a writing task into manageable sections or 'chunks'
- Writing frames enable students to experience some success in writing and experience the writing process

## **Teaching strategy**



http://www.beta.edugains.ca/newsite/aer2/chapter3/elementarystory/temptoolselem/gradrelease.html

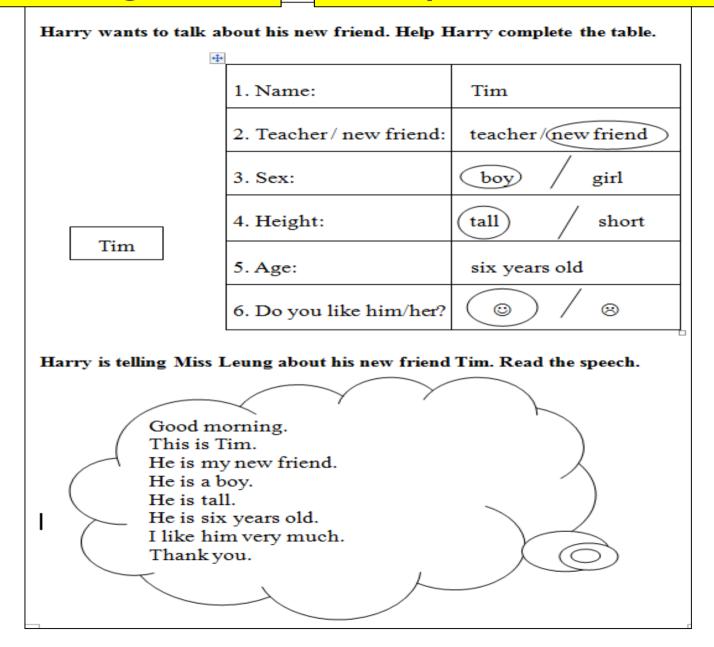
### **Primary 1: Teaching focuses**

Writing conventions

- Write from left to right and from top to bottom of the page
- Recognise correct spacing of letters, words and sentences
- Use capital letters at the beginning of the names of people and titles
- Use full stops at the end of sentences
- Form most upper and lower case letters in handwriting correctly

#### Learn how to make sense of writing frames

#### Learn how to generate ideas and produce sentences



# ✓ Put ideas into sentences✓ Use sentences into a paragraph

P.1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_(

) Date:

Lily has a new robot. She writes about her new robot.

Good morning. This is my robot. It is red and yellow. It has big eyes and small ears. It can sing and dance. It cannot cook or fly. I like it very much.

#### Modelling:

paragraphing

Billy is going to fill in a table. Help him complete the table.

Lily's robot				
What <u>colour</u> is the robot?	and			
What does it have?	and			
What can it do?	and			
What <u>can't</u> it do?	or			

#### Link up ideas with 'and' and "or"

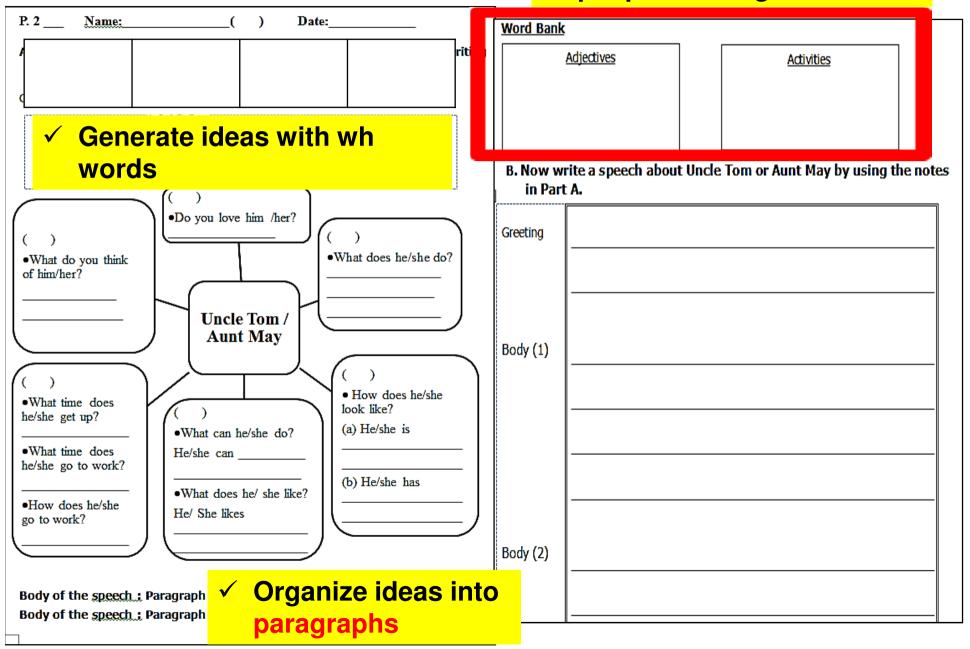
Harry's dog						
1. How old is the dog?						
2. What colour is it?	and					
3. What does it have?	and					
4. What can it do?	and					
5. What can't it do?	or					

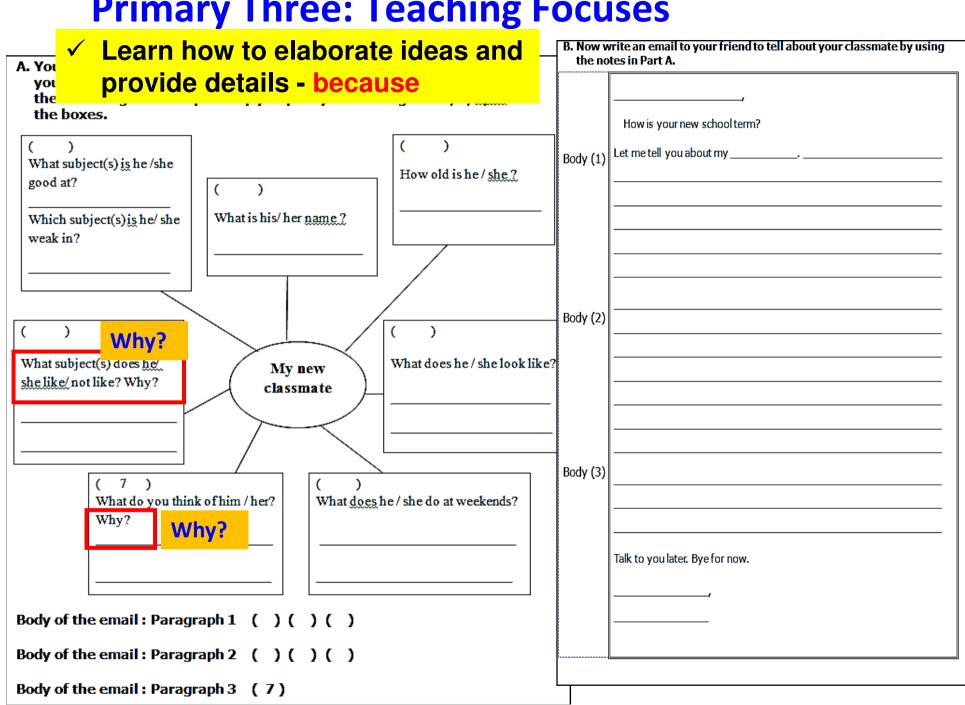
Help Harry write about his d with support

	morning. This is my _	
1)1(18		<u>.</u> 2) It
	and	
3) It		
4) It		
5) It can't		
very much.		
very maen.		

## **Primary 2: Teaching focuses**

#### Use adjectives to describe people or things





#### **Primary Three: Teaching Focuses**

Learn how to elaborate ideas Ike sentences with the help of the table below.							
A. Read the following riddles. Guess	de details - beca	iuse nn	Chinese	L	Computer Studies		
I like thinking. I like doing sums, too. What is my favourite subject?  We like reading English stories	We like doing exercises in the lesson We also like playing ball games. What subject do we like? <b>like+ing</b> They like reading Chinese poems.	helpful kind polite How is t He is_(naughty)	rude nice naughty the pupil?		to       after       on         What does the       Mat does the         plays tricks       his	his classmates.	
We like singing English songs, too. Which subject do we like?	They like writing stories, too. What is their favourite subject?	She is (polite)		• She	e says 'hi' and 'good mornin e doesn't shout	ng' to teachersher classmates.	
I like painting pictures, too         What is my favourite subject?	She likes playing the recorder, too. What subject does she like?	He is (helpful)_		• He	takes careh	s friends. is classmates. when I am sad.	
Joe likes reading about insects. What is his favourite subject?	I like singing Putonghua songs. What is my favourite subject?	She is(kind	d)	• She	e laughs me	when I am happy.	
		He is_(rude)_			shoutshis mo doesn'ttalk	om. _his classmates.	



 Learn how to elaborate ideas and provide details
 because

Exercise 1. Complete the following sentences with "because". Use the words in the table below to help you.

because <b>it is</b> exciting tasty interesting fur	hungry	thirsty	bored	tired	because I am / he/she is
	ng <mark>f</mark> un	interesting	tasty	exciting	because <u>it is</u>

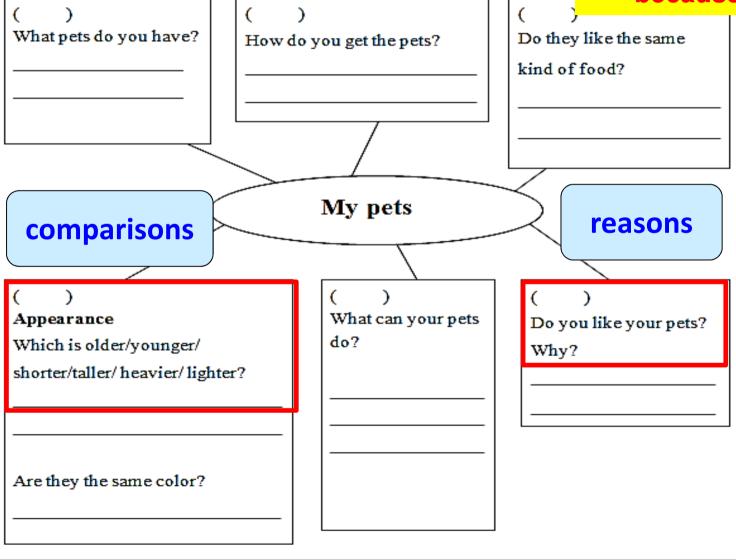
1.1 want to watch TV because I am	•
2. I want to buy chocolate because	
3. She wants to go to be	
4. She likes sushi	
5. He wants to eat a lot of food	
6. She wants to watch the dolphin show	

## Primary Four: Teaching Focuses Learn how to elaborate

#### A. The mind map

You are May. You want to tell your friend, Eric about your two pets. Write friend and tell him about your pets with supporting details. Complete the m

Learn how to elaborate ideas and provide details by using comparisons and "because"



#### **Primary Five: Teaching Focuses**

 $\checkmark$ 

✓ Decide on the sequence of content

Use a wider range of write frames / tables to generate and organise ideas

 ✓ Use a small range of sentence structures  Present main ideas and provide supporting details

 Use a small range of adjectives and cohesive devices

✓ Revise and edit

Pre-writing: Revisit	<u> </u>	F	Post-writing task	Post-writing: Re and editing	evisi	ing
	Writing Ex. 1: <u>A letter to a pen friend—something about Grandpa</u> P.5()         Date:			ting and tick (√).	00	0
Games people played in the past	Games people play nowadays		Checking for myself     I can write a brief intro	duction, body and concluding statement		
played beanbags made puppets/ played with puppets played hide-and-seek	play with radio-controlled cars play computer games play online games	-	-	and past tense correctly. ags with his friends in the past.) r games nowadays.		
played marbles played clapping games	play with robots do puzzles	-	<ul> <li>I can use 'use to' talk a (E.g. They used to play</li> </ul>	bout something people usually did in the past. hide-and-seek.)		
played hopscotch played with hula hoops	make models play with wind-up robots	-	-	l elaborations to describe activities. <i>ke photos. Swimming is <u>relaxing</u>.)</i>		
			information. (E.g. He does exercise (E.g. I like reading <u>bec</u>	•••=•••		
Adjectives for describing activities exciting interesting	Linking words Besides Because	-	(B) Ask your partner to	check your writing and tick (✓).		I
	So Moreover		Checking by :	( )	00	٢
fun interactive	Although If		Does my partner write <u>statement?</u>	a brief introduction, body and concluding		

8

8

#### **Primary Six: Teaching Focuses**

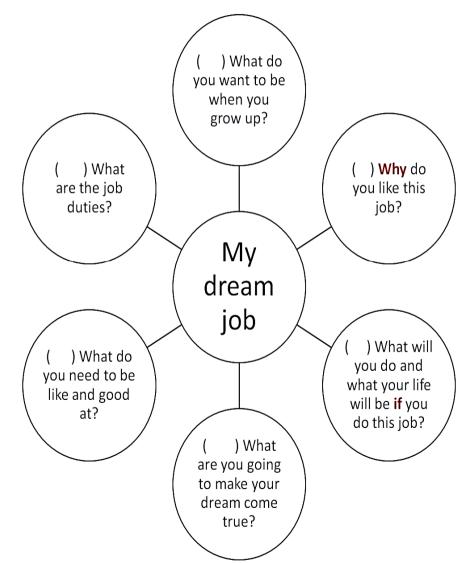
 ✓ Use a wider range of write frames to generate and organise ideas

> ✓ Learn how to present main ideas and provide supporting details

 ✓ Learn how to link ideas coherently with a wider range of cohesive devices

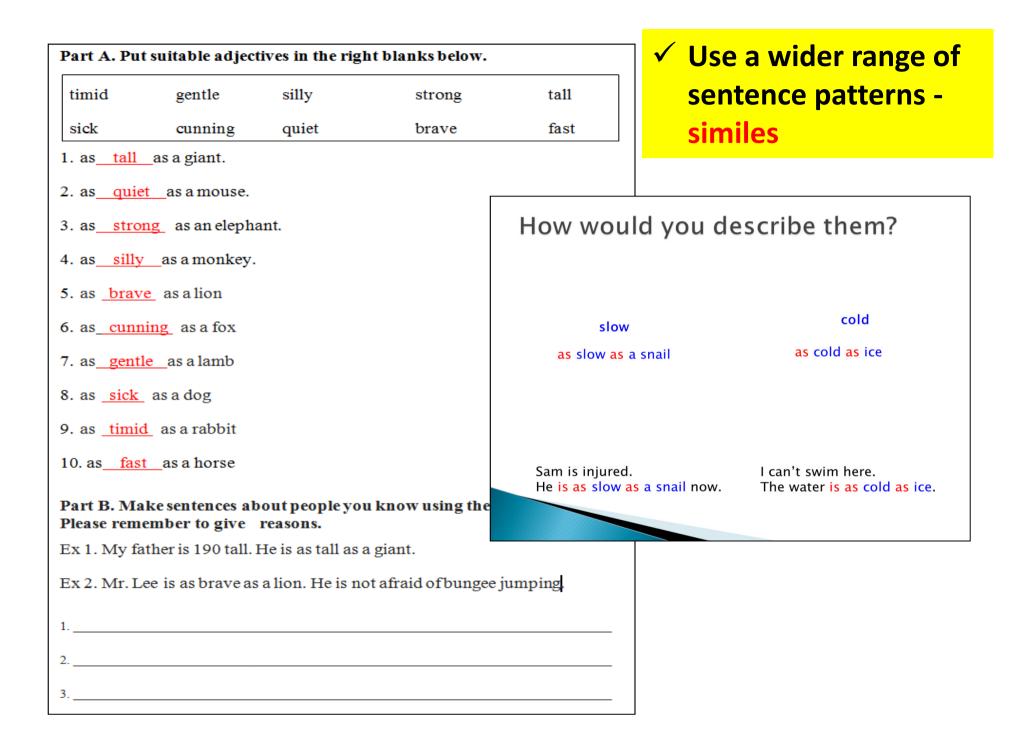
# Primary Six: Teaching Focuses

Write an article about your dream job. Use the mind map below to help you plan your article.



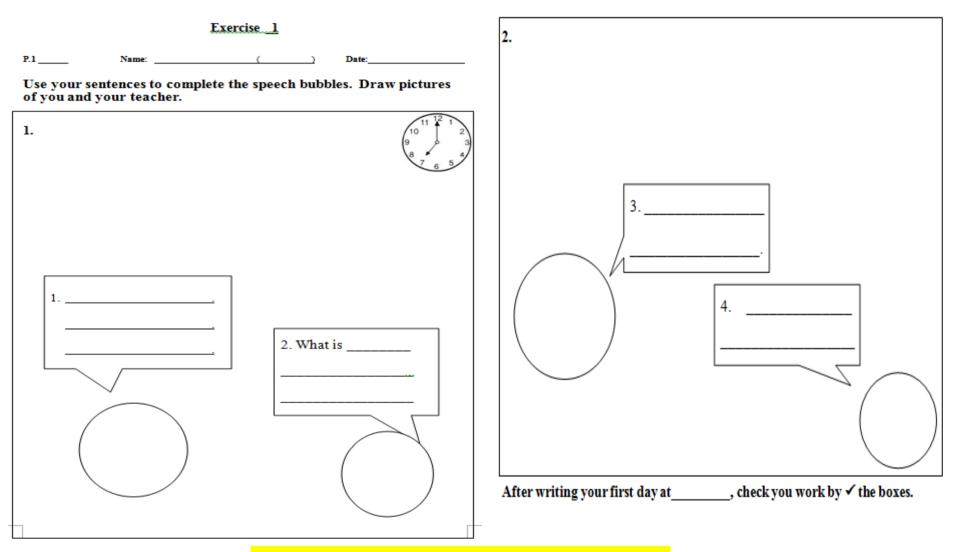
- Use a wider range of write frames to generate and organize ideas
- Learn how to present supporting details through different means

Exercise 2: Giving supporting details by giving examples and sharing your feelings We can add more details in our writing by giving examples and sharing our feelings. Example 1: Giving examples If I become a fashion designer, I'll design beautiful clothes such as trendy jeans and dresses. I can even have my own line of fashion. Example 2: Sharing our feelings If I become a fashion designer, I'll design a lot of beautiful clothes. I'll be happy all the time because people can wear the clothes I design. 1. Actor A. (Use If..... and give examples) B. (Use If.... and share your feeling)

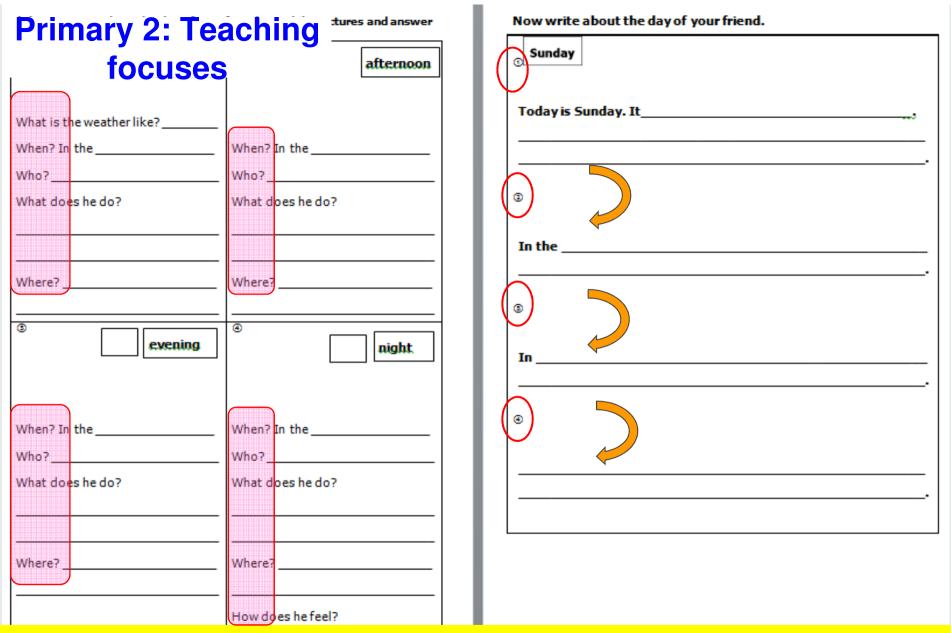


Preparing students to write narratives or recounts with the vertical framework

## **Primary 1: Teaching focuses**

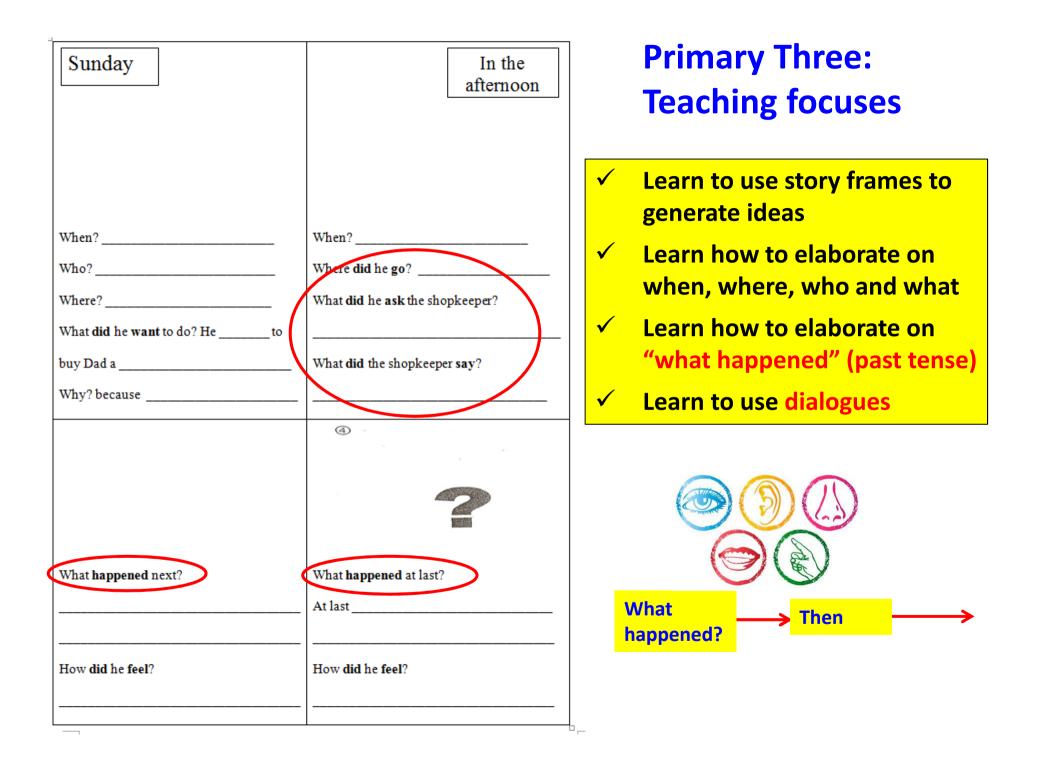


 Develop an awareness of dialogue writing



 $\checkmark$  Learn how to generate ideas with when, where, who and what in a writing frame

✓ Learn how to write a paragraph based on a picture



Write a story about Peter and his classmate	s. Look at the pictures and write a story abo	out		
them. Classroom Cleaning Day 10:00 a.m 11:00 a.m. broom broom		✓	Write a happending	py / sad
help, clean,	sweep, blackboard		Endin	ig
When:	When:	• W	nen: In the end	• When: In the end
Who:	Who:			
Where:	Where:	• W	nat happened:	What happened:
What happened:	What happened:	Pe	ter opened the window,	ſ
How they felt:	How they felt:		e bee flew away nat they said:	• What they said: • How they felt:
a bee, frightened	When:	• Hc	w they felt:	
When:	What happened:			
Who:				
Where:				
What happened:	What they said:			
What they said:_	How they felt:		http://www.bca.hkeaa.ec	lu.hk/web/Common/res/20
How they felt:			12priPaper/P3Eng/2012_	

# Primary Four: Teaching focuses

 Use adjectives and adverbs to describe people and actions

> ✓ Use a wider range of cohesive devices

wonderful	happily Word
1.	2. bank
	board games
invitation cards / excited	When: <u>During the party / First / Before</u>
When:	Where:
Who:	What happened:
What happened:	
How she felt:	How they felt:
3.	4. A new character
delicious/ take photos	✓ Learn techniques to
When: <u>After the games / Then / At about</u> Who:	write story endings
Where:	
What happened:	How they felt:
How they felt:	

#### Primary Five: Teaching focuses

Picture 1	Picture 2
chicken wings/ potato chips/ cakes/ chocolate/ coke	football/ fell down/ call/ worried
When: One day / Last/	When: In the afternoon / After his lunch /
Where:	What happened:
Who:	
What happened:	What they said:
	How they felt:
Picture 3	Picture 4
	Image: Constraint of the sector of the secto
doctor / eat less / eat more	When: Three months later /
When: In the evening / After the game /	What happened:
What happened:	
What he said:	How the story ended:

 Learn to use story frames to plan a story

 Learn how to use a wider range of cohesive devices

✓ Learn techniques to write interesting endings

	Content and organization	lex	t analysis
Introduction:	<b>金素</b>		c analysis
When:	Last week, I went on a picnic with my cousins, Tom and Be	etty.	
Who: Where:	We went to Monkey Hill where we could see monkeys and do m	any	
What:	activities. We took a bus to get there. It took us about an hour, but	-	
How (feeling):		we	
Content and	vere all very excited.		
	······································	✓	<b>Reinforce the</b>
Body: organization	When we arrived at the country park, we were happy beca	ause	
What happened?	there were not many people. It was quiet and we heard the b	irds	use of five
♦ what did they do?	singing. First, we took photos of some beautiful plants and butterf	lies.	senses
♦ what did they see?	The butterflies were prettier and bigger than the ones in Tuen N	ſun.	
♦ what did they hear?	Then, we played some exciting games such as clapping games	and	
♦ what did they you smell?	hide-and-seek. After that, had our lunch because we were hungry.		
♦ how did they feel?			
Body:	We brought a lot of yummy food such as curry fish balls,	hot	
What happened?	dogs and chicken wings. The food smelled so good. We saw a c	rute,	
♦ what did they do?	small monkey, so we gave it some food. All of a sudden, m	any	
♦ what did they see?	monkeys ran to us. They wanted to have our food. I was very sca	ared	
♦ what did they hear?	and I ran quickly. "Go away, you ugly monkeys! Help! Help!	!" I	
♦ what did they you smell?	screamed loudly. At that moment, I tripped on the stone and	fell	
how did they feel?	down. I hurt my knee and it was bleeding. It was very painful.		A new setting:
♦ What did they say?			clinic
Ending:	At last, Tom and Betty called Mom. She came to the country		
□ happy ending  □ sad ending	park and took me to the clinic. "You are okay now. Remember, yo	u	
🗆 new character 🛛 new place	should not feed monkeys," said the doctor seriously. I will never f	eed	A lesson
♦ What happened finally?	moneys again. It was the most frightening time in my life!		
♦ How did they feel?			learned

#### Language and style

Read the story again find out the examples there.

Examples

Last week...

When...

Good things

about the writer

Use time phrases

to tell the time

#### Learn how to use a wider range of $\checkmark$ cohesive devices, grammar items and sentence structures

Betty. We went to Monkey Hill where we could see monkeys and

do many activities. We took a bus to get there. It took us about an

hour, but we were all very excited.

I screamed loudly

• said the doctor seriously

life!

Use adjectives to

describe people

Use adjectives to

and things

compare

Use "Jy" to

describe actions

Give examples

Use dialogue

with adverbs

ł

5

Last week, I went on

		1
•	We were happy /	hot dogs and chicken wings. The food smelled so good. We saw a
	excited / hungry	cute, small monkey, so we gave it some food. All of a sudden,
	I was <u>scared.</u>	many monkeys ran to us. They wanted to have our food. I was
-		many monkeys fan to us. They wanted to have our food. I was
•	The butterflies were	very scared and I ran quickly. "Go away, you ugly monkeys!
	prettier and bigger	
	<u>than</u> the ones in Tuen	Help! Help!" I screamed loudly. At that moment, I tripped on the
	Mun.	stone and fell down. I hurt my knee and it was bleeding. It was
•	<u>played</u> some	
	exciting games <u>happily</u>	very painful.
•	I was scared and I <u>ran</u>	
	quickly	
•	<u>such as</u> clapping	At last, Tom and Betty called Mom. She came to the country
	games	park and took me to the clinic. "You are okay now. Remember,
•	<u>such as curry</u> fish	
	balls, hot dogs and	you should not feed monkeys," said the doctor seriously. I will
	chicken wings.	never feed moneys again. It was the most frightening time in my

	•	First
	٠	Then
	٠	After that
	٠	All of a <u>sudden</u>
	٠	At that moment
	٠	At last
Use the past	٠	went, could see, took,
tense to talk		were
about the past		
Use the sentences	٠	We went to Monkey
you learned in the		Hill <u>where</u> we could
unit		see monkeys.

## **Primary Six: Teaching focuses**

- ✓ Learn to use dialogues in a wider variety of ways
- Learn how to use a wider range of sentence structures appropriately and accurately (language and style)
- ✓ Plan a story with story structure
- ✓ Learn how to link ideas coherently (organisation)

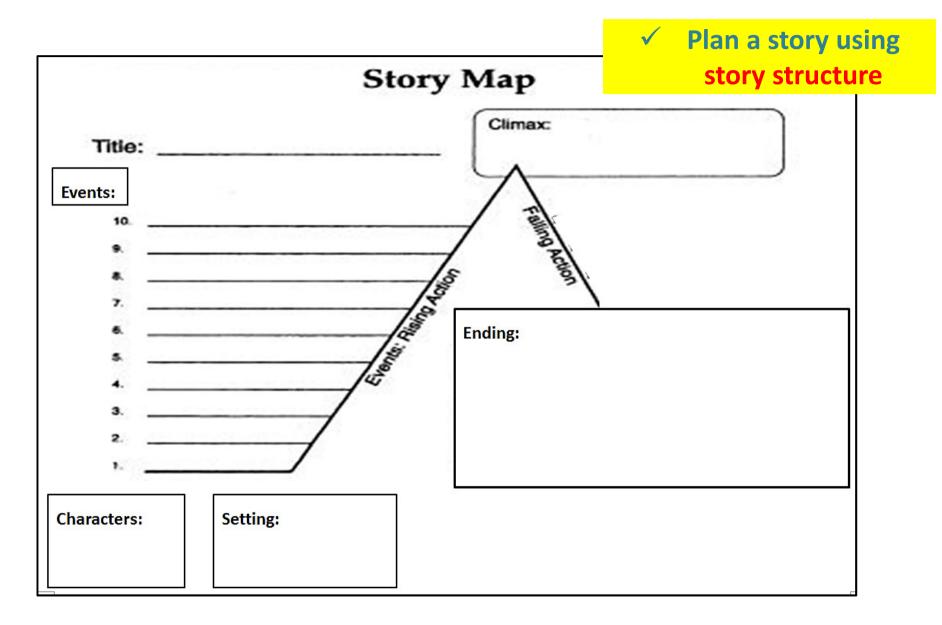
#### Use a wider range of speech verbs

#### ✓ Use adverbs in dialogues

asked	scolded	screamed	whispered	
cried	yelled	exclaimed	shouted	]
	•	L		, 
loudly	politely	angrily	happily	
excitedly	rudely	unhappily	quietly	
confidently	seriously	proudly	softly	

- 'Can you teach me how to make this card?' <u>asked</u> Joe <u>politely</u>.
- 'This is the first time I win in the writing competition!' shouted Karry excitedly/ proudly.
- You must pay attention in the lesson,' Miss Wong <u>told</u> the students <u>seriously</u>.
- 4. 'Stop fighting!' Dad shouted angrily.
- 'I can play with my friends in the Christmas party,' <u>thought</u> Janet <u>happily.</u>
- 6. 'Goodnight, my dear,' said Mum softly.

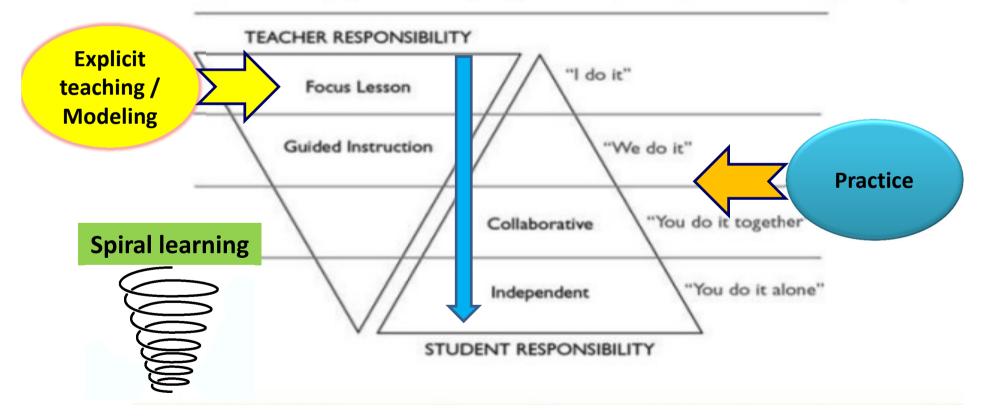
### Primary Six: Teaching focuses



# Part 2 Teachers' sharing Principles and Effective Strategies that work

# Why Use Scaffolding?

Effective scaffolding can increase the students' independence in performing a task or learning a new concept through the gradual release of responsibility (Echevarria, Vogt & Short, 2010; Fisher & Frey, 2008).



https://www.slideshare.net/cbhuck/success-through-scaffolding/1

# Explicit teaching and step by step scaffolding

Ms Helen Fung, English Panel Head

**Aldrich Bay Government Primary School** 

# Background

- Students' family support is not strong
- Students have limited exposure to English outside the school
- They lack confidence to write a piece of writing

Development focus			
14-15	15-16	16-17	
P.3	P.2 & P.4	P.5 & P.6	

# **Strategies adopted**

- Writing tasks are developed based on the themes from the textbooks and the target vocabulary, grammar items and sentence structures are taken into consideration
- Writing frames are used to develop students' writing skills
- Explicit teaching is crucial

# **Modelling writing involves:**

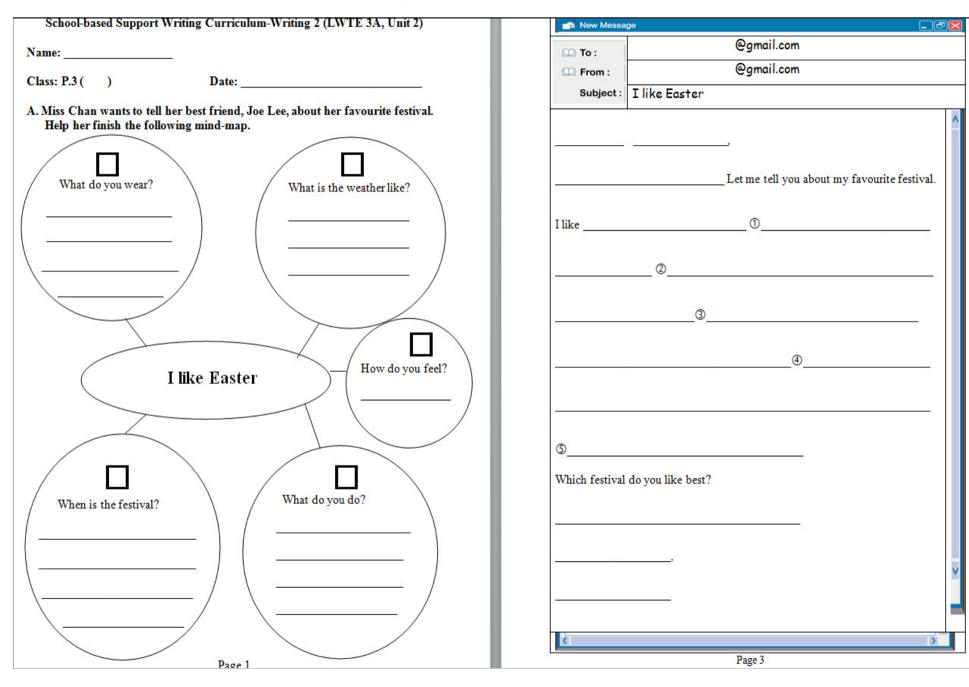
- constructing a composition in front of students
- showing them the process of transforming ideas into text
- thinking out loud to demonstrate the many kinds of choices and steps involved in composition (Dombey, 2013)
  - Teachers' modelling, shared writing, group writing and independent writing are adopted to facilitate the teaching and learning of writing skills

(A)Ben likes summer ho	(A)Your friend likes playing sports. H in the summer holiday. Write abo and answer the questions.	le/ She <u>wants</u> to do exercises every day out his/ her week. Look at the pictures	Now write about your friend's week in the summer holiday. Please indicate "He / She" by circling the right pronoun.
the questic	Image: Sunday     8:00     morning	<i>in the summer holidary</i> Image: Constraint of the summer holidary         Image: Consummer holidary	0
	What is the weather like?	What weekday?	Today is Sunday 
What is the w Who? What does he	Who? What <u>does</u> he/ she do? What time?	What does he/ she do? What time?	0
3	Image: Second		On
What weekda	What weekday?	What weekday?	On
What does he	What <u>does</u> he/ she do? What time?	What does he/ she do? What time?	
		How does he/ she feel?	He / She feels

# **Quality over quantity**

- Focusing on student learning: moving from observing to co-constructing, from coconstructing to imitating, from imitating to practising, and from practising to creating
- Writing skills intensively taught in 3 pieces of writing each term
- Students have other opportunities to write in other tasks such as journal and free writing

#### Primary 3 - the first writing task in the 1<sup>st</sup> Term



# **Lesson Clips**

- Explain the task requirements
- Model how to answer the questions in the mind map
- Model how to sequence the ideas in the mind map
- Model how to make choices, e.g. following basic writing conventions when writing the e-mail



- Model how to put sentences together to complete the e-mail
- Let students practise writing through group writing with different roles
- Let students read aloud their writing to reinforce their learning
- Edit students' work together and promote peer learning





# Step by step scaffolding within a level

- Scaffolding at word / sentence / paragraph level
- Establishing links between writing tasks to let students build on what they can do and have achieved
- Developing students' writing skills progressively instead of teaching isolated writing skills

#### Accuracy at the sentence level

#### **Describing feelings Describing activities** A. Let's read. Name: \_\_\_\_\_( )\_\_Class: P. 2 ( ) Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Iam tired. / bored. / thirsty. feed the birds ride the bicycle listen to music He/She/It is hungry. / happy. / hot. climb the trees walk the dog take photos busy. / sad. / angry. You / We / They are B. Fill in the blanks with the given words. bored thirsty busy happy angry tired hot sad hungry E.g. John rides the bicycle. + 1. He\_\_\_\_\_. 1. Mary \_\_\_\_\_\_. E.g. I am tired. 2. Leo \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Sam\_\_\_\_\_. 3. Ada\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Betty\_\_\_\_ 5. Peter and Mike 4. Miss Chan \_\_\_\_\_. 4. Sally\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Ken\_\_\_\_\_. 6. I\_\_\_\_\_ The children

#### Generating ideas to describe pictures with wh- question prompts

#### Learning how to put ideas into sentences and connect them into a paragraph

Look at the pictures below and describe the people in the pictures with the help of the guiding questions.

E.g.

Who is he?	Ben.
Where is he?	Behind the swimming pool.
What does he do?	Ride a bicycle.
How does he feel?	Happy.

#### He is Ben. He is behind the swimming pool. He rides a

bicycle. He is happy.

1.

1		Candy.
	Where is she?	
3	What does she do?	
I	How does she feel?	

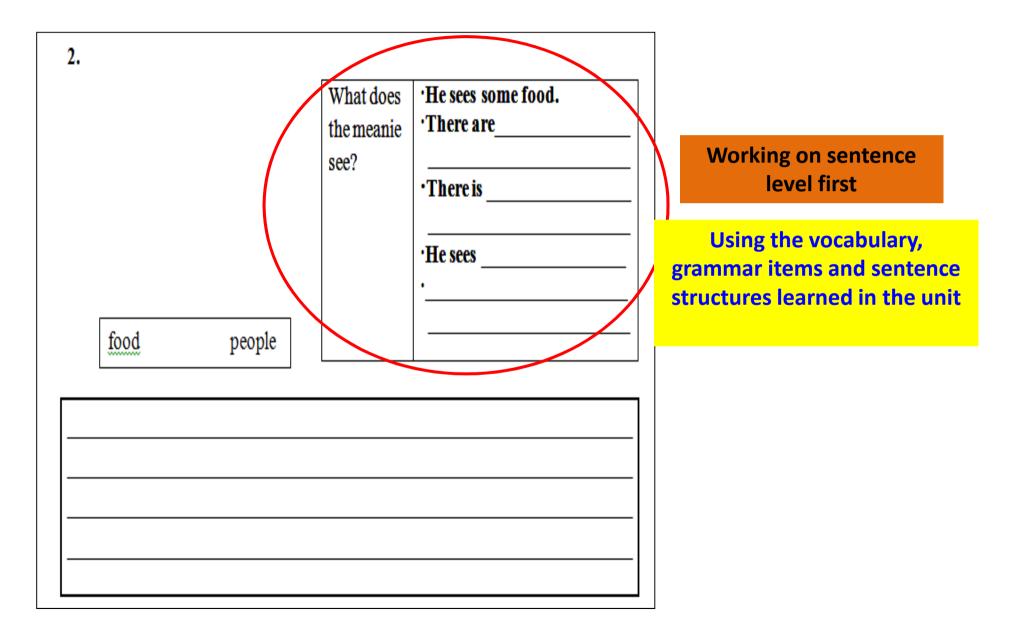
Who is she?	Mary.
Where is she?	
What does she do?	
How does she feel?	

3.

Who are they?	Tom and Sally.
Where are they?	
What do they do?	
How do they feel?	

#### The writing task was designed Working on paragraph Writing 4 based on the textbook unit level first 3. School-based Writing Curriculum Task sheet 2 (LWTE 2B, Unit 1,2) How does the meanie Name: \_\_\_\_\_( ) feel? Class: P.2 ( ) Date: What does he do? Look at the pictures carefully. Plan how you are going to finish the story about a meanie. 1. When is it? one day Who is he? hungry party Where is he? **+** How does he feel? Why? unhappy town One day, What happens? 4. 2. 'He sees some food. What does •There are the meanie see? •There is What does he feel? ·He sees delicious happy food people **Generating ideas to describe** what they see from familiar pictures and write a short story

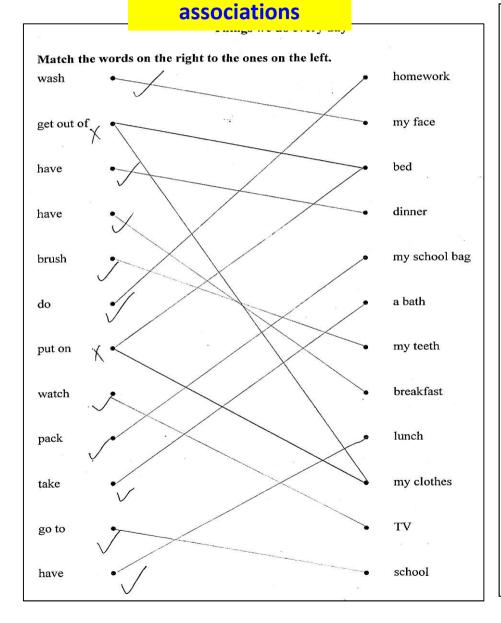
## What students need to learn in the unit is taken into consideration



#### **Text level**

From describing pictures to creating ideas to write themselves	P2_Name :	m Writing Task (LWTE 2B, Unit 3,4)() Date : r friend. Read the pictures and answer afternoon	School-based Writing Curriculum Writing Task (LWTE 2B, Unit 3,4) Class: 2 Name : () Date : Now write about the day of your friend.
	What is the weather like? Who? What does he do? What time?	What does he do? What time?	Today is Sunday.
Describing a day of someone:	3 evening	©	3
<ul> <li>The time</li> <li>The weather</li> <li>What the person does at different times</li> <li>How the person feels</li> </ul>	What does he do? What time?	What does he do? What time? How does he feel?	He
- How the person			

#### Word level: word



#### Practice at the sentence level: constructing the target sentence structures

	Who	What	What time	When
	I	wake up	at nine o'clock	in the morning.
2				
3				
5				

Part B. What do your family usually do on Saturday? Write some sentences in the table below.

	Who	What	What time	When		
1	My sister	wakes up	at eight o'clock	in the morning.		
2						
3						
4						
5						

#### Generating own ideas based on familiar prompts

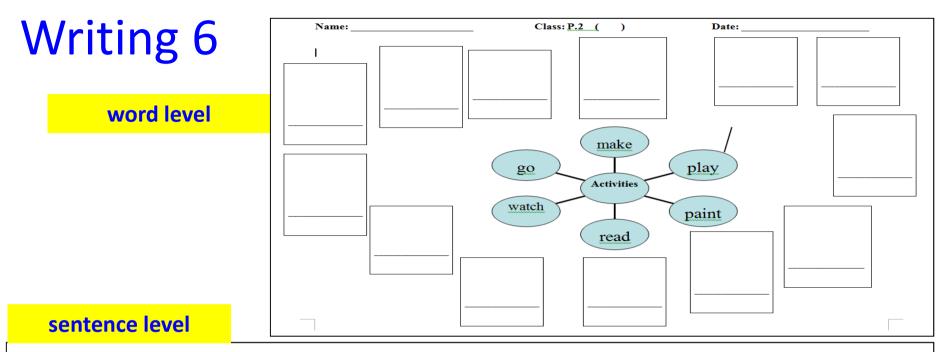
#### Coming up with own ideas

Practising writing

(A)	You write about the day of your friend. Read the pictures and answer
	the questions.

<sup>①</sup> Sunday <sup>7:00</sup> Morning	2 afternoon
What is the weather like?	What does he do? What time?
Who? What does he do? What time? 	
3 evening	(4) night
What does he do? What time?	What does he do? What time? How does he feel?

Class: 2 Name : Now write about the day of you.	paragraphs
Now write about the day of you. mena.	
① Sunday	
Today is Sunday	·
0	
He	
3	
He	
•	



#### Part A. What do you usually do in a week? Write some sentences in the table below.

	What weekday?	Who?	What?	What time?	When?
1.	On Monday	I	go swimming	at seven o'clock	in the evening.
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

Hart B. What does you<sup>r</sup> friend usually do in a week? Write some sentences in the table below.

	What weekday?	Who?	What?	What time?	When?
1.	On Saturday	Billy	play <u>s</u> tennis	at half past one	in the afternoon.
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

# Writing 6 Recycling the skills learned

(A)Your friend likes playing sports. He/ She wants to do exercises every day in the summer holiday. Write about his/ her week. Look at the pictures and answer the questions.

#### 's week in the summer holidary

© Sunday 8:00 morning	Tuesday 5:15 afternoon
	I
What is the weather like?	What weekday?
Who?	What does he/ she do? What time?
What does he/ she do? What time?	
What weekday?	What weekday?
What does he/ she do? What time?	What does he/ she do? What time?
	How does he/ she feel?

### Using the same framework to write about leisure activities

Now write about your friend's week in the summer holiday. Please indicate "He / She" by circling the right pronoun.

0	
2	
On	
3	
On	
٩	
On	He / She feels

### **Impact on teaching and learning**

- All teachers use common teaching strategies for teaching writing, e.g. modelling, shared writing/ group writing before independent writing
- Students learn how to write through consistent and constant practice
- Students have gained more confidence and motivation in writing
- The non-attempt rate in the exam has dropped

The importance of recycling and scaffolding within a unit

Henry Kwok, English Panel Head Fung Kai Liu Yun Sum Memorial School

# Background

- Students lack confidence and motivation in writing
- Learning diversity is acute
- Non-attempt rate in the writing exam was a concern, especially among students in KS2

Development focus		
14-15	15-16	16-17
P.4	P.5	P.6
	Using writing frames from P.1-P.6	

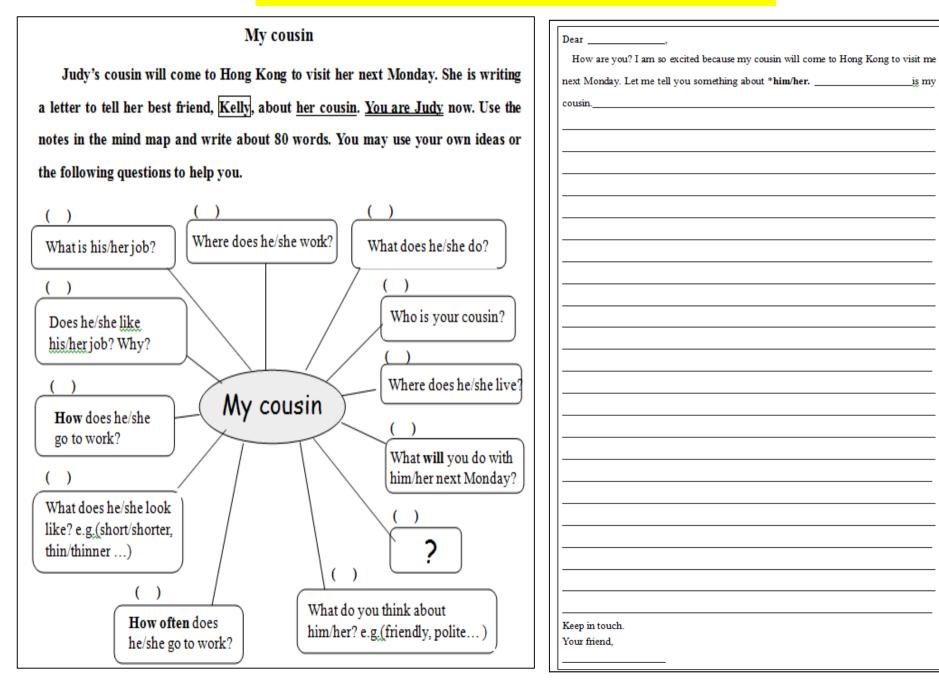
### Why recycling and revisiting skills learned?

- Let students revisit the skills and deepen their learning experience
- Get students prepared to write more confidently (psychologically)

# Scaffolding within a unit

- Scaffolding tasks were designed to prepare students for the main writing task
- They increase students' confidence and let them learn and practise using the target vocabulary and sentence structures in a stepby-step manner

#### P.5 Module 1 Main Writing Task



### **Scaffolding task**

Helping students be ready to use the correct prepositions

Improving accuracy at the sentence level Unit 1 Activity Sheet (1)

GRADE:

#### 'Where do they work?'

Write the correct workplaces for the following jobs.

Jobs	Workplaces (Where?) <u>*Please circle</u>				
1. a vet	*(in/on/at)				
2. a dentist	*(in/on/at)				
3.a fireman	*(in/on/at)				
4. a lawyer	*(in/on/at)				
5. a postman	*(in/on/at)				
6. a photographer	*(in/on/at)				
7. a programmer	*(in/on/at)				
8. a pilot	*(in/on/at)				
9. a cook/ chef	*(in/on/at)				
10. a designer	*(in/on/at)				
11. a waiter / waitress	*(in/on/at)				
12. a salesperson	*(in/on/at)				
13 a hairdresser	*(in/on/at)				
14 a flight attendant	*(in/on/at)				
15. a singer	*(in/on/at)				
Workplaces for you to choose:					
a restaurant a salon	an office a court a studio				
a fire station a plane	a police station a clinic				
a vet clinic a post of	ffice stage a shop				

### Scaffolding task Unit 1 Activity Sheet (2)

**Preparing students** to write about different jobs in a more organized manner

DATE:

What do these people do when they are at work? Match the correct job duties with the jobs below.

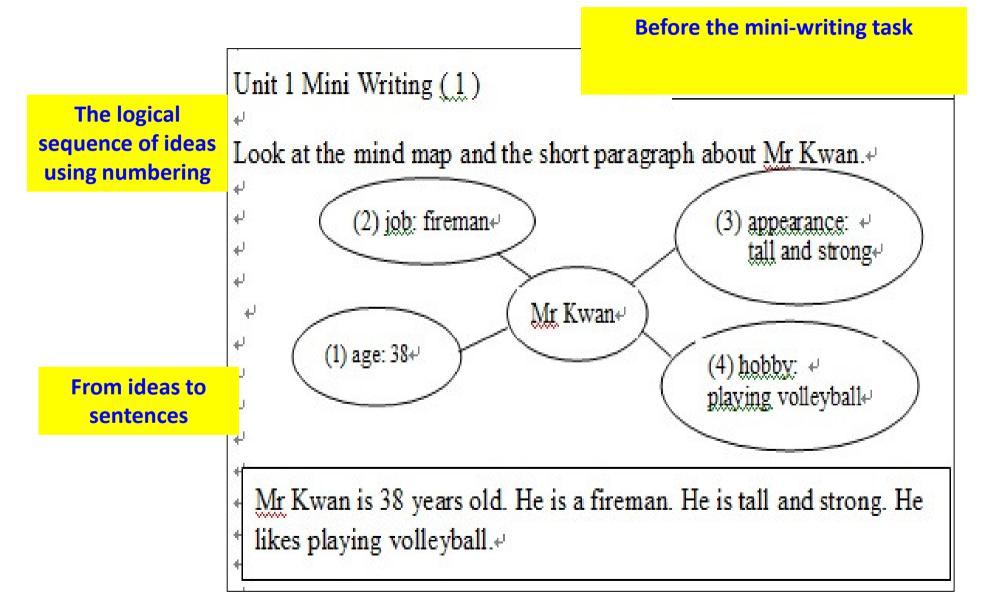
<u>a</u> vet a dentist <u>a</u> programmer <u>a</u> salesperson	a fireman a lawyer a postman a photographer a pilot a chef a designer a waiter a hairdresser a flight attendant a singer			
Jobs	Job duties			
	• take(s) care of sick animals and keep(s) them healthy			
	• take(s) care of people's teeth			
	<ul> <li>sing(s) songs and dance(s) to entertain people</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>help(s) people design a new hairstyle /</li> </ul>			
	help(s) people cut their hair			
	• sell(s) things in the shop			
	• help(s) people find the things they want			
	• deliver(s) letters and parcels to people			
	• serve(s) people food and drinks on the plane			
	• keep(s) people safe on the plane			
	<ul> <li>cook(s) tasty food for different people</li> </ul>			
	• tell(s) people about the law			
	• help(s) people in a court			
	<ul> <li>design(s) many new things for people</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>meet(s) different people every day and help(s) them take many beautiful photos</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>save(s) people from danger</li> </ul>			
	• put(s) out fires			
	<ul> <li>fly(flies) a plane</li> <li>take(s) people to different countries</li> </ul>			

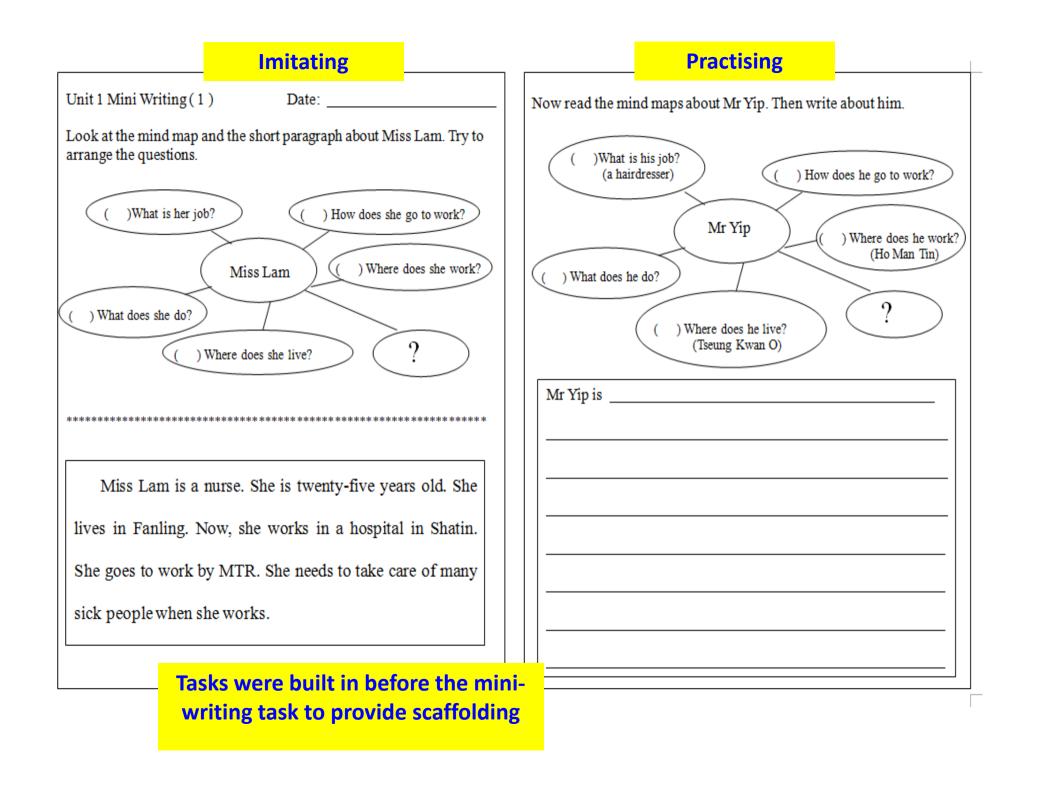
### **Scaffolding task**

Helping students to use the target grammar item "adverbs of frequency"

Providing opportunities for students to practise using the target vocabulary, sentence structures and skill in a controlled manner Unit 1&2 Activity Sheet (4) GRADE: How often do they go to work? Do they like their jobs? Why? Read the information below and write the suitable reasons in the brackets. profitable meaninaful challenging interestina professional exciting safe stable Reasons they like their jobs How often? People's jobs e.g. He/She likes his/her job e.g. He/She goes to work... because Tue Wed Thur Mon •he can keep Hong Kong safe 1. Joe is a policeman. Fri Sat Sun • it is challenging e.g. Joe is a policeman. He goes to work **four days a week**. He likes his job because he can keep Hong Kong safe and it is challenging. Mon Tue Wed Thur •she likes to meet different people 2. Sandy is a waitress. •it is Sat Sun Sandy is a waitress. She Mon Tue Wed Thur 3. David is a dentist. Sat Sun ●it is Mon Tue Wed Thur \*4.Oscar is Fri Sat Sun (\*Please circle) It is

# Revisiting the skills of using a mind map: using a short paragraph as an example



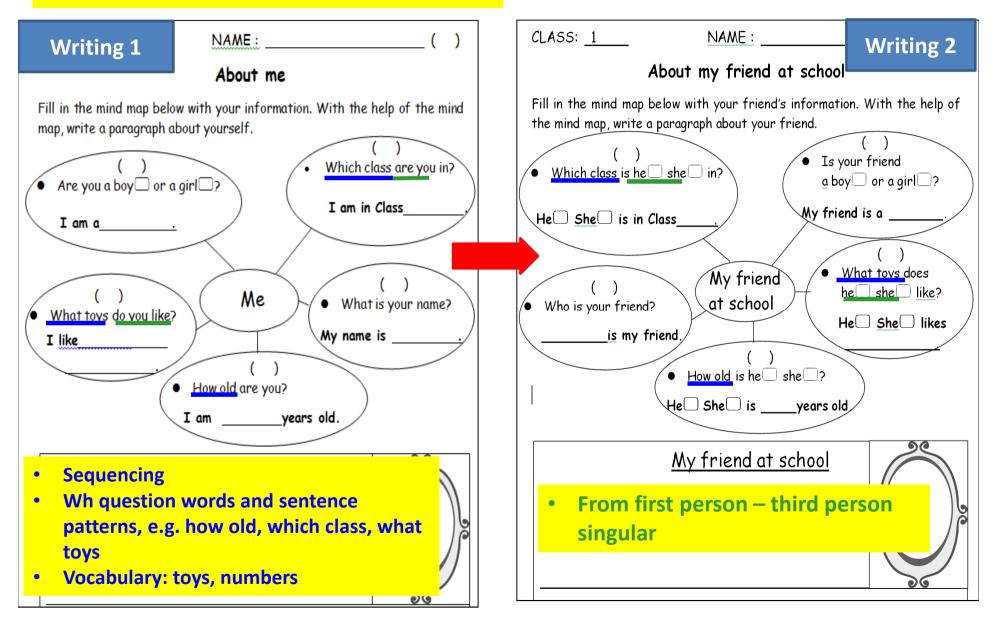


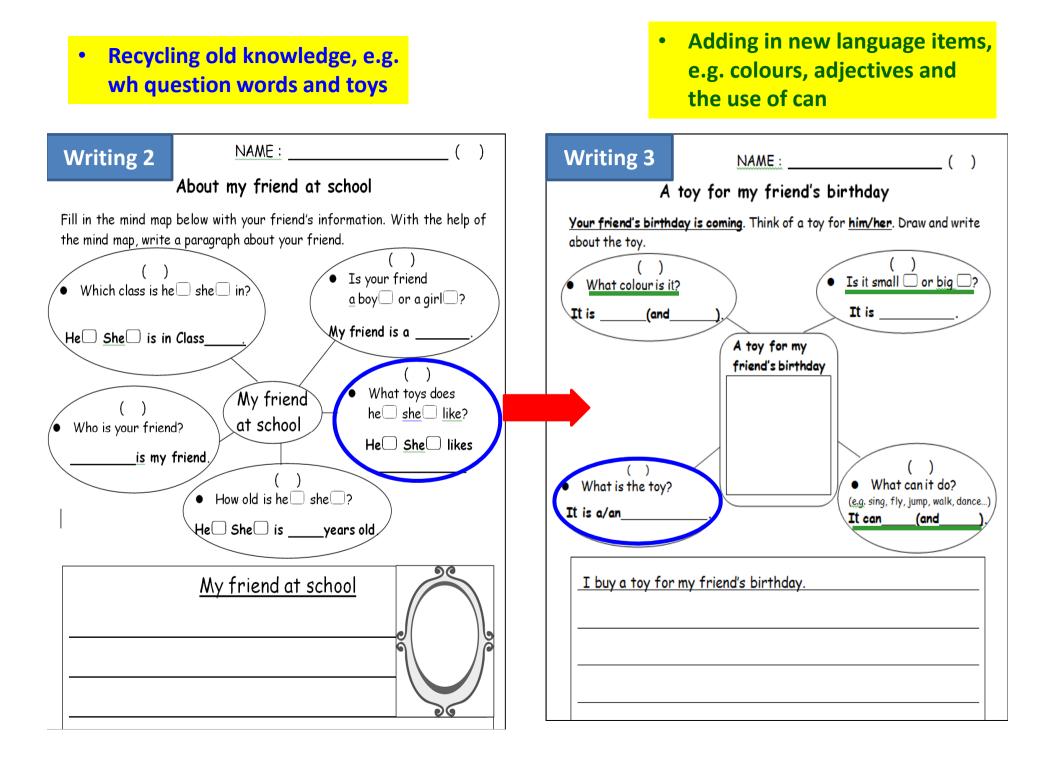
# Impact

- Always try to let students recycle what they have previously learned
- Always scaffold students for the main writing tasks through considering what sort of input they need in their writing
- Extend the impact to other levels and help KS1 students to lay a firm foundation in writing

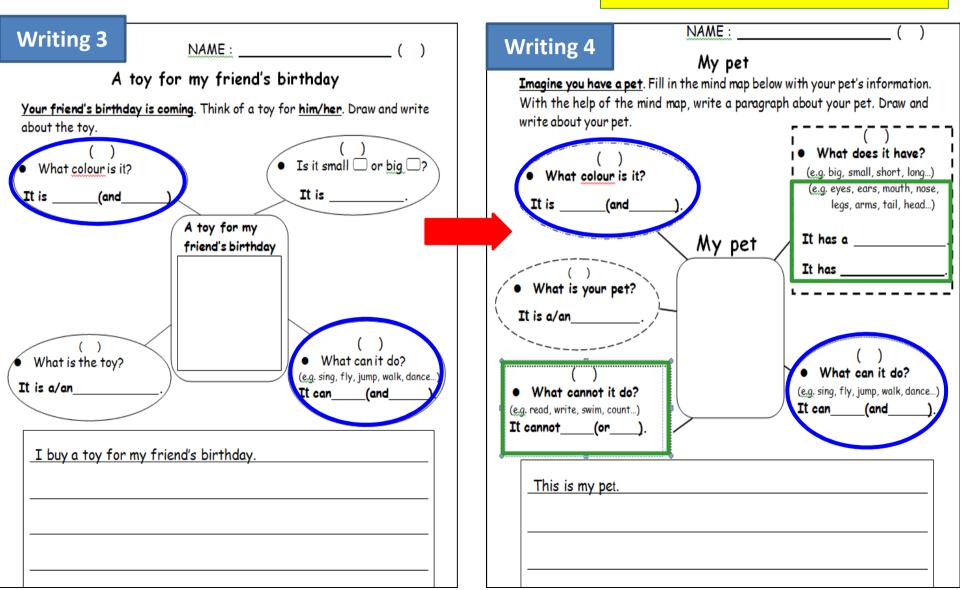
# Honing students' writing skills starting from P.1

#### Recycling and revisiting vocabulary and skills in different contexts





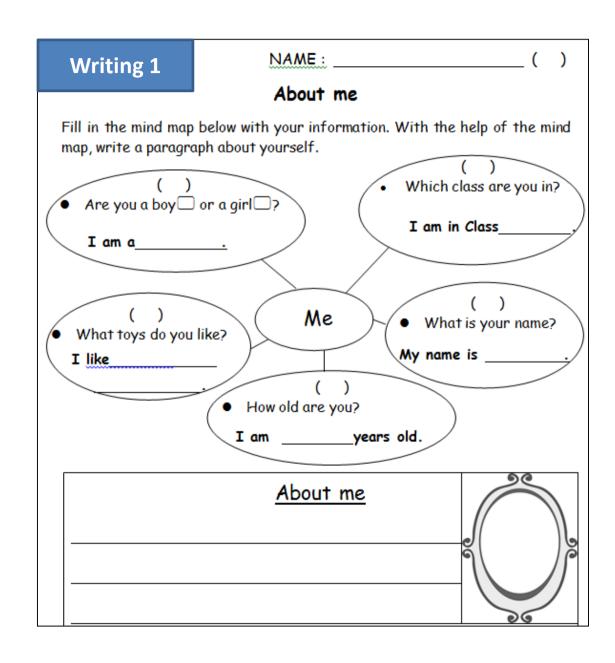
 Recycling old knowledge, e.g. colours, the use of can and adjectives

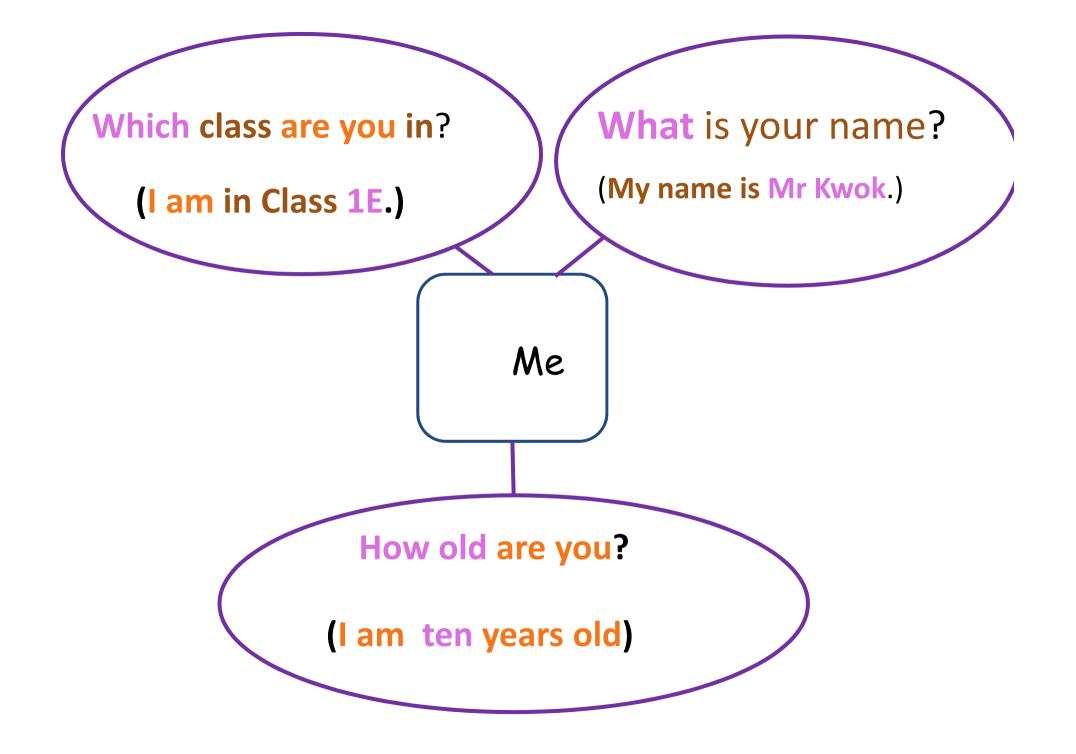


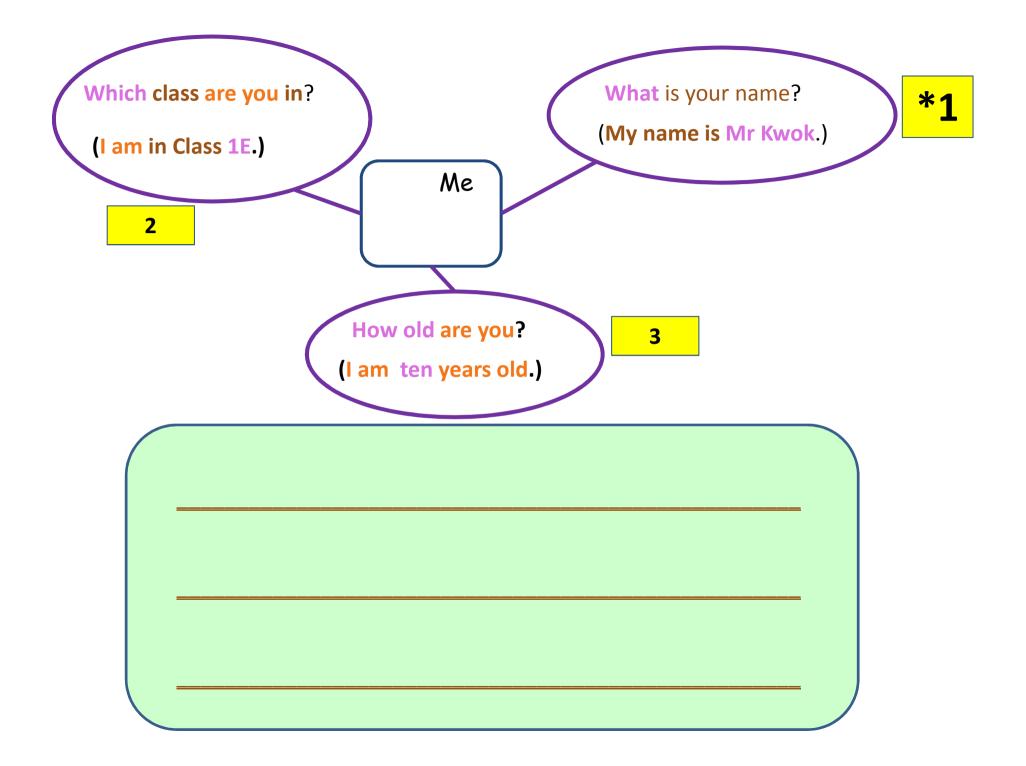
 Adding in new language items, e.g. body features and the use of cannot

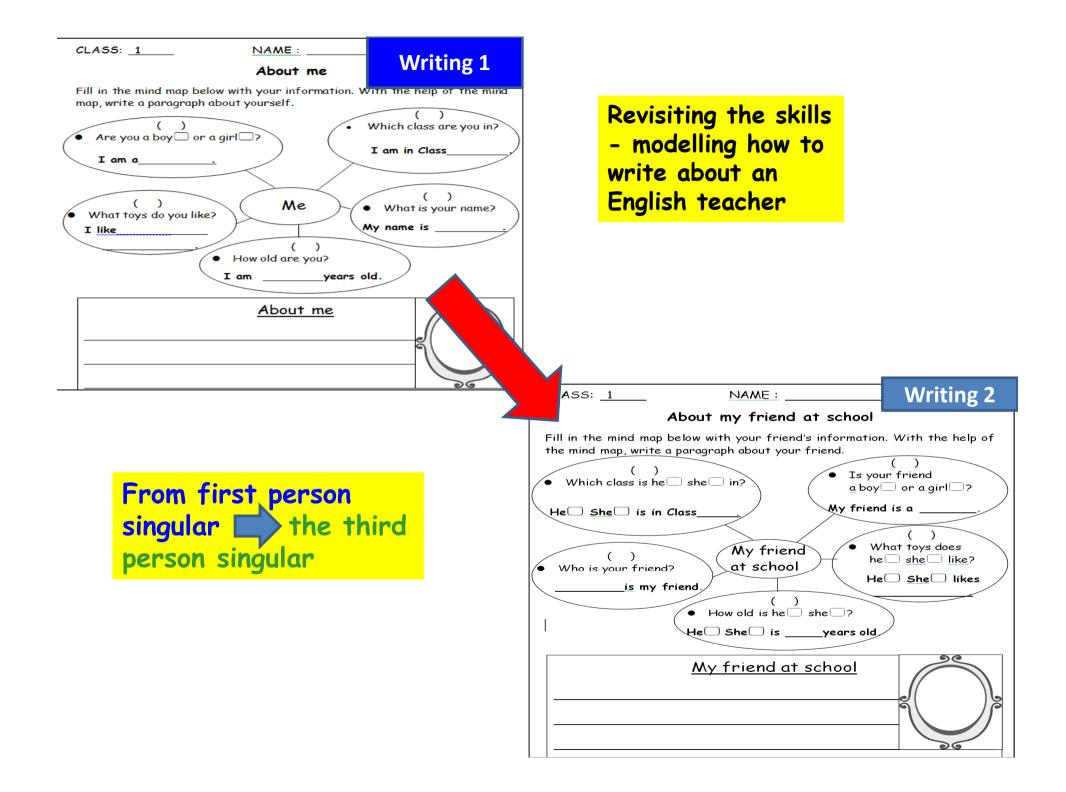
## **Before attempting the first writing**

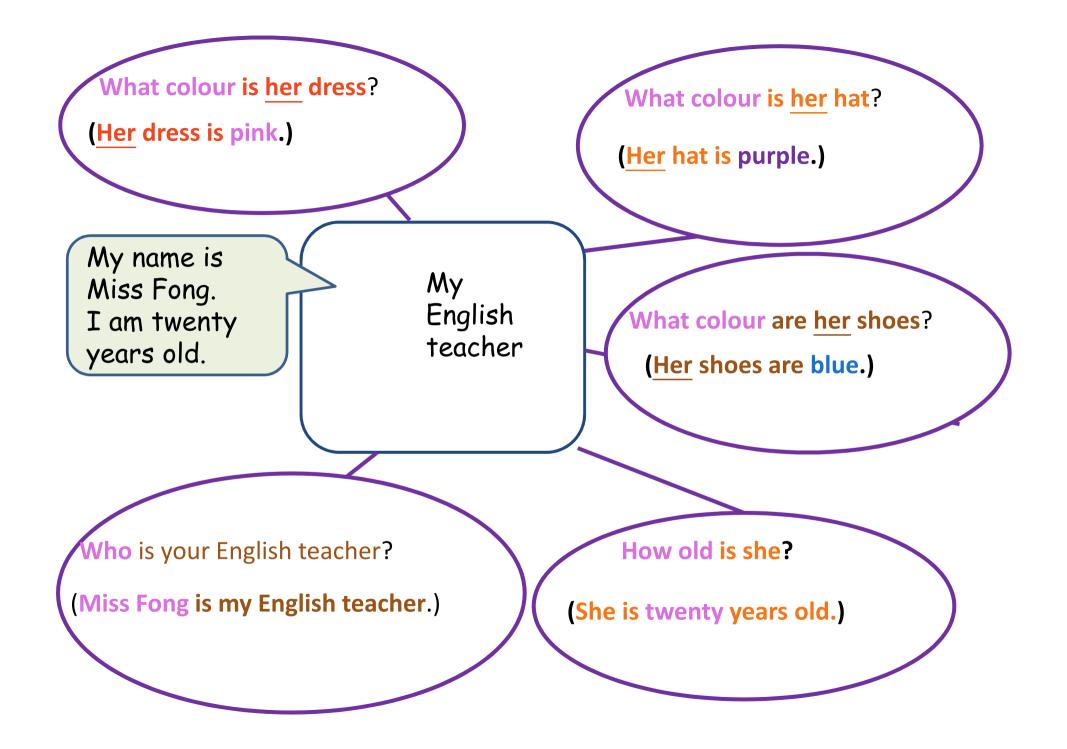
 Explicit teaching and modelling were adopted in the writing process

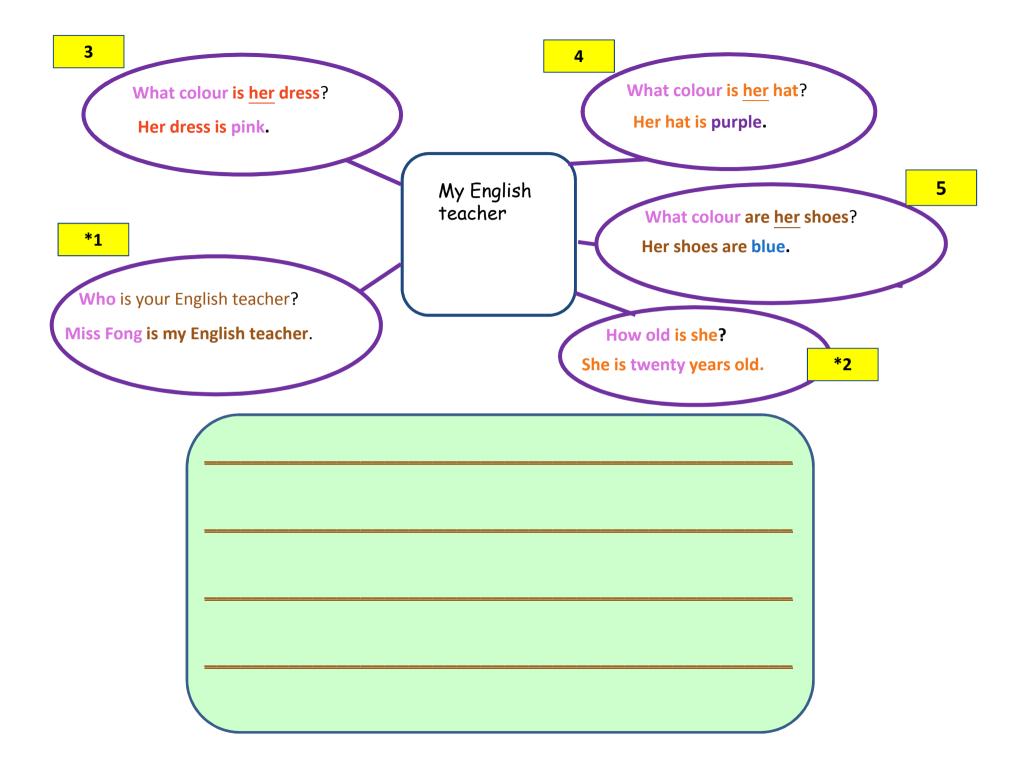












## Mini-writing for students to rehearse writing

Mini Writing(2.1)   DATE:	Mini Writing (2.2)
CLASS: NAME:( )	CLASS: NAME:( )
Look at the following picture and <u>colour</u> the clothing items.	Look at the mind map. Then write about your English teacher.
My name is Mr Kwok. I am forty years old.	( ) What colour is his T-shirt? His T-shirt is His T-shirt is Who is your English teacher? Is my English teacher? Is my How old is he? He isyears old.

Facilitating purposeful and progressive learning

Ms Eva Yau, English Panel Head Fanling Public School

# **Issues identified**

weak family support the problem of learner diversity was quite acute

weak foundation in English

poor writing skills

failed to internalize and apply what they had learned

# **Our development focuses**

- To help students develop writing skills progressively with reference to the vertical framework
- To develop a school-based writing curriculum with teaching focuses across grade levels

13-14	14-15	14-15 15-16				
P.4	P.2 & P.5	P.3 & P.6	P.1 - P.6			

# **Strategies**

- 1. through better scaffolding
- 2. through spiral learning
- 3. through removing scaffolding and increasing complexity gradually

# Scaffolding

Teaching Focus	P.4					
Elaboration on characters, events or actions• Use adjectives to 						
We can use adjectives to talk about one's feelings. We can use adverbs to describe the way people do the action. Name the part of speech of the underline words. <u>i.e.</u> Adjective = adj. / Adverb = adv.						
e.g. This <u>beautiful</u> girl sang <u>beautifully</u> . adj. adv.						
Once upon a time, there was a fat boy. He always ate messily.						
My brother did well in the exam. He is happy.						
You shouldn't talk on the phone <b>loudly</b> in the bus.						

#### P.2-4 We can use adjectives to talk about one's feelings. We can use adverbs to describe the way people do the action. today. e.g. It is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ John feels (adjective about how he feels) He walks \_ (adverb describes how he walks) It is school picnic today. Mary can't join the because she is \_\_\_\_\_. (what?) (adjective) She stays at home \_\_\_\_\_. (adverb describes how she stays at home)

# Using write frames and wh- questions to scaffold students to write a paragraph step by step

Plan your story carefully with the given words and pictures

Picture 1	Picture 2	
		Paragraphing and idea development
When:	When:	
Who:	What happened:	wants to keep fit
Where:		
What happened:	What they said:	
	How they felt:	Who?
Picture 3	Picture 4	where
What happened:	When:	How/Why?
What they said:		Who?
How they felt:	What they said:	What? What? How/Why? 4.
	How they felt:	-

#### **Understanding story structure**

Task 2. Read the book again and complete the following table.

□ Rising Action /

Problems

c) What was the problem

that the character(s)

had?

Climax

a) What was the most

story?

exciting part of the

Outcome / Resolution

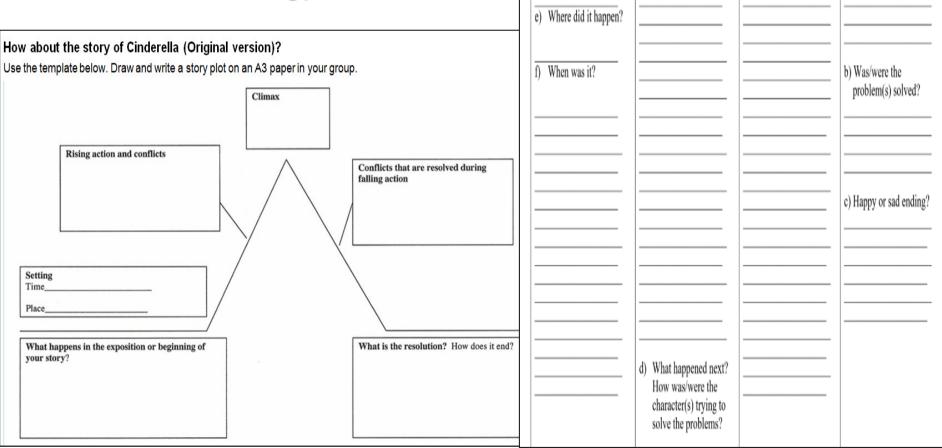
a) How did the story end?

Setting and Characters

d) Who was/were the

main character(s)?

# Completing a story plot (from reading)



#### **Creating interesting endings to stories**

#### Understanding different endings

When we write a story, we can develop different endings. Read the story again. Match the different endings with their names.

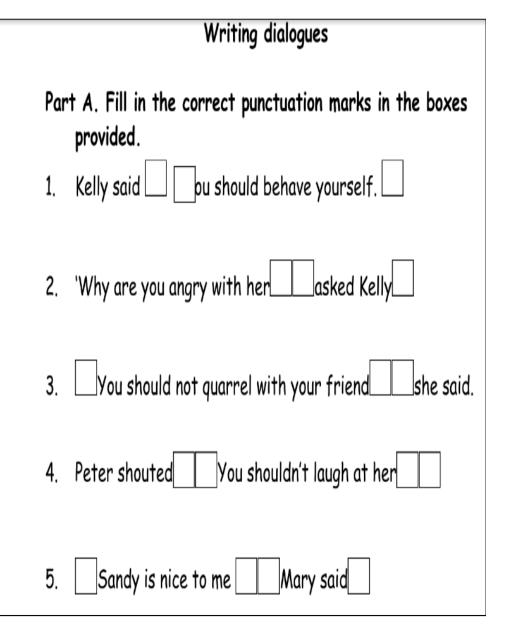
A. Focus on the character's feelings	B. Design a new character	C. Change the setting of the story
Version A		
Version B		
Version C		

#### **Teaching students how to use dialogues**

- the use of correct punctuation
- the use of general and specific speech verbs
- the use of adverbs
- the use of correct tenses in dialogues

B. Fill in the following blanks and boxes with suitable speaking verbs and punctuation marks...

# said answered asked 1. How much is a packet of potato chips Joe Image: Said and S



#### Helping students to use dialogues with increasing complexity

Reading loud with feelings				<u>Mr. Tung at a Fast Food Shop</u>
asked	scolded	screamed	whispered	One day, Mr. Tung and Miss Sa <u>Sa</u> went to a
Who Who	broke the stole my n	yelled exclaimed shouted broke the vase? stole my money? made this cake?		They finished their food. 'The food is very cheap!' Mr. Tung said happily. 'Are you still hungry?' asked Miss Sa Sa. 'Thanks for asking. I am not hungry anymore.' Mr. Tung said politely. 'The food is cheap now but it was better last year.' Miss Sa Sa. 'The food tasted a bit funny.' Mr. Tung
				Suddenly, Mr. Tung held his tummy. 'Help! My tummy' he         'Oh! Are you okay? What did you eat?'         'I ate a lot of food. I think' 'Would you like         to use the toilet?' 'Yes, please!'

#### **Ample practice for students to use dialogues**

	the bles	ke Vau m		ach speakin	e week a	nee only			Name: _			Clas	s: P.5	Date:		
said	asked	shouted		whispered		laughed	scolded		Speaking	g verbs (	Dialogue ta	gs)				
									said	asked	shouted	cried	whispered	sang	laughed	scolded
1 -		'Help	! Help! T	he wolf is h	ere! Plea	se help me	!' the boy		A. Mata	hing						
		-	sadl	y.											A A A	
2		'They	are goin	g to take all	the mon	ey from the	e bank.'					$\square$			V	
			N	fr. Chan.												
3		'Stop	You sh	ouldn°t eat	this bir	thday cake	e. It's not									
		yours	It is for	your father.	Mom_		Peter.			,			1	1		
4		'That	's the wo	rst haircut	I have e	ver seen! l	lt's funny!			-		$\frown$			~~~	
		Youl	ook like a	a pineapple 1	now.°Da	vid	_loudly.						1			
5		Sam		Mr. Tung, '(	Can you	teach me, p	lease? I									
		don't	understa	nd this quest	ion."											
6		They		_happily, 'J	ingle Be	lls, Jingle H	Bells,		6	3					×	
		Jingle	all the w	ay! '									_			
7		'It's ra	aining. G	et in to the o	lassroor	ns now!' M	ir. Chong								$\sim$	
			101	ıdly											(?)	)
8				glasses?'as							7	$\sum$				
		'They	are on y	ou head.'		Mrs. Lee.										
1																
								-								

#### The use of dialogues - with increasing complexity

Writing dialogues in a story

There are different ways to write dialogues. Here are some examples:

- A. 'I miss Uncle Ben so much!' said Jane. (speaking verb + speaker)
- B. 'It's like the trees we had in Canada!' Jane shouted. (speaker + speaking verb)
- C. 'Do you want to buy this ?' Tony asked Jane. (speaker + speaking verb + listener)

Task 1: Find more examples in your book.

1) | Type A: 'I miss Uncle Ben so much!' said Jane. (speaking verb + speaker)

Can you find more examples in the reader? Write them down here.

2)

Type B: 'It's like the trees we had in Canada!' Jane shouted. (speaker + speaking verb)

Can you find more examples in the reader? Write them down here.

#### The use of present and past tense in dialogues

Mr. and Mrs. Chan. They haven't seen one another for two years so they dalked (talk) to one another. Mom talked about me. 'John (be) very tal now. He was (bc) short two years ago.' said Mom. Mom talked about my sister very hel now. too. 'Mary \_ s Two years ago, .' said Mom. housh (adjective)

### Timely feedback

<u>Correcting mistakes</u> Read the following story and correct the mistakes.	Re-reading the story
Once upon a time, <b>has</b> (1 <b>therewas</b> live (2) with her stepmother and sisters. housework.	_) a beautiful girl called Cinderella. She They always asked her to do a lot of

# Impact on students' writing

#### More able students

- write > 100 words in 15 mins
- elaborate ideas with supporting details
- use adjectives to describe the setting, characters, actions/ events
- use connectives to connect ideas and develop the plot of stories
- use dialogues to express ideas in stories with a range of speech verbs
- write an interesting ending by adding a new character/ action or changing the setting (with elaboration)

#### Less able students

- are willing to write
- express ideas using some familiar sentence structures
- use short phrases to express feelings in stories.
- use a small range of cohesive devices
- write simple dialogues and use a small range of speech verbs
- write a simple ending/ a new ending by adding a new character or action

# **Limitations and constraints**

- The framework mainly focuses on descriptive and narrative writing
- Balanced coverage of text types has been taken into consideration
- More thought can be given as to how to plan and teach persuasive and expository writing

# Some important points to note

- The framework is not prescriptive nor exhaustive (based on one textbook series) – a reference tool
- As students progress, changes need to be made:
- students should receive less scaffolding and should take up more responsibility in the construction process
- ✓ the writing tasks may need to be modified and become less controlled
- teachers can introduce new writing frames to stretch students' potential or develop new writing skills

# Implications

- Map out the writing skills with reference to the arrangement of vocabulary, grammar and structures in the textbooks
- Space???? How?
- Integrate the target vocabulary, grammar and structures in the writing tasks with relevant textbook units
- Replace assignments without clear focuses with meaningful tasks

#### For professional sharing and exchange

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