

6 Things You Should Know: Ancient Texts and 21st Century Literacy Skills

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Objective: Demonstrate one solution to the challenge of teaching both ancient texts and 21st century writing skills that uses mentor texts and modeling to build several literacy skills.

Mentor text: ESPN the Magazine's Feature *6 Things You Should Know*

1. Analyze mentor text and create a criteria chart.
2. (Optional but recommended) Teacher creates a mentor text.
3. Students brainstorm, then practice writing in this genre by interviewing another person or writing about their own expertise.
4. Students collect evidence from the classroom text around a particular topic.
5. Students write in the modern genre using carefully selected evidence from the text.

Works Cited

Clemmons, Anna Katherine. "6 Things You Should Know About Stringing Tennis Rackets." *ESPN the Magazine* September 5, 2011: 46. Print.

Feemster, Ron. "6 Things You Should Know About Being a Rodeo Clown." *ESPN the Magazine* October 17, 2011: 38. Print.

Gallagher, Kelly. *Write Like This*. Portland, Maine: Sternhouse, 2011. Print.

Graham, S., & Perin, D. *Writing Next: Effective strategies to improve writing of adolescents in middle and high schools - A report to Carnegie Corporation of New York*. Washington, DC: Alliance for Excellent Education, 2007. Print.

The National Commission on Writing for America's Families, Schools, and Colleges. *The Neglected "R": The Need for a Writing Revolution*. Princeton, New Jersey: The College Board, 2003. Web. 3 Mar. 2012.

Resources

The National Writing Project: <http://www.nwp.org/>

UCLA Writing Project: <http://centerx.gseis.ucla.edu/writing-project>

Kelly Gallagher: <http://kellygallagher.org/>

Kelly Gallagher's Article of the Week: <http://kellygallagher.org/resources/articles.html>