

LESSON 1

1. The Saying

1. Read the Saying several times.
2. Highlight and explain key words.
3. Brainstorm: “What are synonyms for these words?”
4. Ask: “What does the saying mean?”
5. Have students give the saying in their own words.

+TEACHER TIPS

- » Look for misconceptions of the saying, and help students to understand the meaning.
- » Have every student read the saying, with different emphases for each reading.
- » Have students recite the saying from memory.

2. Discovery

1. Brainstorm: “How is the author praiseworthy and virtuous?”
2. Have students write four or five of the best answers, in the workbook.

3. The Eight Paragraphs

ENCOMIUM

The Encomium praises the author of the saying.

1. Ask: “What is the purpose of the Encomium paragraph?”
2. Write a sentence stating that it is right to admire or heed the author. (**Introduction**)
3. Use facts from the “Discovery” lesson in expressing the author’s praiseworthy and virtuous characteristics. (**Praises**)
4. Have students write a sentence introducing the subject matter with a simple word or short phrase, but don’t explain the saying yet. (**Thesis**)

Ex “This wise saying is about preparedness.”

The Chreia: “To be prepared for war ...”

“To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace.”
—George Washington, speech to both houses of Congress, January 8, 1790

Discovery

List several facts about the author.

- Founding Father of the United States
- Hero of Revolutionary War
- Laid down his commission at the end of the War
- First President of the United States

I. Encomium

Introduction

Write a sentence that introduces the author. Include a figure of description.

It is right to admire *one of the United States’ wisest presidents (ethopoeia)*, George Washington.

Praises

Write three praises for the author.

- He fought heroically in the Revolutionary War.
- He placed the needs of the country before his personal desires.
- He accepted the burden of being the first President of the United States.

Thesis

Write a thesis statement, which states what you will speak about.

This wise saying is about preparedness.

Rough Draft

Combine the three elements above into a paragraph.

It is right to admire one of the United States’ wisest presidents, George Washington. He fought heroically in the Revolutionary War. He placed the needs of the country before his personal desires, and he accepted the burden of being the first President of the United States. Although we could say much about this great man, I will speak only about his wise saying on preparedness.

5. Have students combine the above elements (Introduction, Praises, and Thesis) into a paragraph. (**Rough Draft**)
6. Proofread once paragraphs are written.
7. Rubric Reminder: Handwriting is a component of the Final Draft rubric. Always insist students’ handwriting be legible, consistent, and neat.

+TEACHER TIPS

- » Modeling sentences can be very helpful to students, but make sure they write in their own words.
- » Try doing the Encomium paragraph as a class. This can help build individual students’ enthusiasm so they can tackle the rest of the essay with confidence.

2. Paraphrase

Word Variations

List several synonyms for these words from the saying: *prepared, war, effectual, means, preserving, and peace.*

- prepared:** ready, up to speed, armed, braced, equipped, fortified, outfitted, primed, trained
- war:** battle, combat, conflict, enmity, fighting, hostility, strife, contention, bloodshed, warfare
- effectual:** adequate, capable, effective, efficacious, efficient, potent, powerful, sound
- means:** method, way, avenue, channel, course, expedient, fashion, instrument, path, route, tactic
- preserving:** conserving, guarding, keeping, perpetuating, protecting, retaining, safeguarding, saving
- peace:** accord, amity, concord, order, unity, harmony, serenity, congeniality, tranquility

Sentence Variations

Write four variations of the saying. Choose the best one to be your paraphrase and add this phrase: “The saying teaches that ...”

1. To be ready for battle is one of the most effective expedients for guarding order.
2. To be armed for conflict is one of the most potent paths of protecting concord.
3. To be braced for bloodshed is one of the most sound tactics of conserving tranquility.
4. One of the most powerful ways of saving serenity is to be primed for hostility.

3. Cause

Nine Narrative Components

Identify the *who, what, when, where, how, and why* of a narrative that applies the meaning of the saying to life.

1. Recognition: a country can lapse into military weakness and be vulnerable
2. Reversal: country preserves its peace
3. Suffering: war, death, and subjection to foreign nations
4. Agents: wise statesman and citizens
5. Action: prepare for war; e.g., build a strong military, fortify defenses
6. Time: before war
7. Place: a country
8. Manner: wisely, prudently, diligently
9. Cause: to show that war is avoided through defensive preparation

Rough Draft

Compose a paragraph using the nine narrative components. Include a figure of description. Identify Recognition (R), Suffering (S), and Reversal (V).

Wise statesmen know future conflicts (S) with angry, aggressive nations are likely if a country lapses into military weakness (R). Consequently, the wise president will appeal to the other statesmen and citizens to fund the military, and so preserve peace (V).

of grammar, punctuation, and spelling, require that students use those skills in their writing.

+TEACHER TIPS

- » Remember that the Paraphrase is about clarification, not alteration. It is a Variation with a purpose.
- » Composition is where all these communication skills come together. Take advantage of that, and give your students purposeful practice.

CAUSE

The Cause expresses the meaning of the saying in the form of a general story.

1. Ask: “What is the purpose of the Cause paragraph?”
2. Identify the truth of the saying in shortened form. (**Recognition**)
3. Tell how the subject will be rewarded if the wisdom is heeded. (**Reversal**)
4. Explain what must be avoided or what is the hard work that must be done in heeding the wisdom. (**Suffering**)
5. Identify the remaining Components (**Agents, Action, Time, Place, Manner, Cause**).
6. Have the students put the Nine Narrative Components together, narrating orally.
7. Compose a rough draft paragraph.
8. Rubric Reminder: Content is a component of the Final Draft rubric. Make sure they know which of the Nine Components you are requiring.

+TEACHER TIPS

- » Remember that the Cause always communicates and clarifies the meaning of the saying.
- » Feel free to model a paragraph if students are having trouble.

PARAPHRASE

The Paraphrase makes the meaning of the saying more clear through variation.

1. Ask: “What is the purpose of the Paraphrase paragraph?”
2. Have students write each word listed in the directions on a separate line, and write several synonyms for each. Instruct students to mentally test each synonym by substituting them in the original sentence. (**Word Variation**)
3. Take a few minutes to write four variations. Choose the best one for the Paraphrase, and begin the sentence with a phrase like, “This saying teaches that ...” (**Sentence Variation**)
4. Rubric Reminder: Mechanics are a component of the Final Draft rubric. Whatever you’ve taught in the areas