

Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 6-12)



A Unique One-Day Live Online Seminar Presented by

Joel Clements

National Presenter, Author and
Acclaimed English/Language Arts Teacher

**Specifically Designed for Educators Serving Grades 6-12:
English/Language Arts Teachers, Classroom Teachers, Content Area
Teachers, Literacy Coaches, Special Education Staff and Administrators**

New and innovative strategies to **dramatically reduce time spent grading** while giving meaningful, specific feedback

Practical, ready-to-use methods and techniques for assigning and evaluating student writing that maximize student involvement and autonomy

Dynamic, powerful strategies to engage today's students and make writing more meaningful

Navigate the AI moment without losing your mind — Practical strategies for AI detection, ethical use, and rebuilding authentic student investment in writing

LIVE ONLINE SEMINARS

January 19

9 AM Central, 8 AM Mountain,
7 AM Pacific, 10 AM Eastern

January 25

9 AM Eastern, 8 AM Central,
7 AM Mountain, 6 AM Pacific

CEUs and Graduate Credit Available
See page 6 for details

CAN'T ATTEND?

Order the recorded version
and take the seminar online at
your convenience (see page 6)

*"Joel provided fresh
insights that have
motivated me to try new
ideas and strategies."*
— SAMANTHA AVERY, ELA TEACHER

Ten Key Benefits of Attending

"I now have new ideas and activities I can start applying right away."

– ERIN MCLAUGHLIN,
ENGLISH TEACHER



Who Should Attend

Educators Serving
Grades 6-12: English/
Language Arts Teachers,
Classroom Teachers,
Content Area Teachers,
Literacy Coaches,
Special Education Staff
and Administrators

1. Strengthen Your Students' Writing Skills

Proven approaches for strengthening your students' writing ... Practical strategies to get powerful results while creating a productive learning environment

2. Differentiate Your Writing Instruction

Learn ways to create a cycle of student ownership and proficiency-based writing to better meet the diverse levels of students' writing skills

3. Reduce the Time You Spend Grading Student Writing

Learn proven strategies to significantly reduce the time you spend grading while increasing all of your students' writing skills

4. Learn Creative Approaches to Improve Student Engagement and Success with Writing

Move "outside the box" to re-engage students with multimodal writing, and to find exhilarating and challenging ways to improve their writing

5. Provide More Effective Feedback to Improve Students' Writing

Move beyond that time-consuming essay grading with minimal learning-curve ... Techniques for giving more meaningful, more practical feedback

6. Utilize Generative AI as a Powerful Tool

Explore multiple strategies for guiding students through the ethical use of AI, as well as for utilizing it as a resource to augment and accelerate our lesson design and feedback

7. Rebuild Student Motivation and Authentic Investment

Instill ownership and autonomy into your students' process to teach them how to teach themselves

8. Explore Strategies to Make Writing Relevant and Meaningful to 21st-Century Learners

Build lessons for students to practice traditional writing skills in dynamic, relevant platforms

9. Organize Your Writing Lessons to Increase Student Success

Develop strategies for flexible prepping and planning to help your students become more confident and competent writers

10. Navigate School/District Pressure Around Writing Standards

Receive extensive ideas that will allow you to immediately spend less time grading and more time in creative instruction and conferencing ... Yes, less time grading and more time focusing on innovative ways to engage students in much higher levels of writing proficiency. Create pathways through – and around – writing standards and standardized assessments to keep writing personal and meaningful

Outstanding Strategies You Can Use Immediately

What You Will Learn ...

- **Innovative ways to help your students** increase the quality of their writing and enable you to fit in all the ELA standards you are required to teach
- **How to stop taking piles of papers home to grade** and start using strategic feedback that your students really learn from
- **Practical, proven strategies** to implement writing assessments in multiple writing genres
- Outstanding, ready-to-use ideas for **integrating multimodal writing assignments** with your current writing program
- How to **get students more deeply engaged in the process** of writing, leading to stronger finished products
- How to **give targeted feedback that reduces grading time** and increases student progress
- **Proven tips for making AI an asset to the classroom**, so you can spend more time collaborating and creating, and less time trying to catch AI-generated work
- How to **increase students' confidence in writing** and focus less on grades and more on achieving substantive personal goals
- How to **get students serious about peer feedback**
- **Proven ways to teach students to read and revise their writing** using interactive



"Thank you so much! I appreciate the genuinely useful approaches to teaching day to day and for re-envisioning the purposes for writing and learning."

– HEATHER BABB, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER

Practical Ideas and Strategies

Your students can generate a five-paragraph essay in twelve seconds. Most of them know it. Some of them have done it. Writing begins to feel less and less like their creation, and more like a generic product. And you still have 87 papers to grade this weekend. AI disruption, district scrutiny of writing standards, erosion of student engagement – it gets more difficult to make writing meaningful for our students, and to combat apathy and disengagement. Amidst it all, we often find ourselves – buried once again in stacks of papers – feeling like we are spending more time on our students' work than they are. In this seminar, you'll learn numerous practical ways to turn that around! You will discover practical ways to drastically reduce your grading time while making your feedback more strategically effective. Paired with this, you will learn new and innovative methods for taking your students' writing to the next level with daily, easy-to-use instructional techniques that will work in your classroom.

JOEL CLEMENTS, acclaimed national writing expert and experienced secondary level ELA teacher, will demonstrate dozens of ways to strengthen the writing skills of all students in Grades 6-12. You will learn how to more effectively implement peer feedback, discussion techniques and student conferences in your class time that will give your students the immediate feedback they need to revise and improve their writing on the spot.

Joel will share dozens of new and innovative ways to reduce your paper grading load while increasing your students' writing skills. From your struggling students to your more advanced writers, these tools work! Join Joel for a day filled with dozens of practical and doable strategies to strengthen your writing instruction and see powerful results!



A Message From Seminar Leader, Joel Clements



Uniquely Qualified Instructor

JOEL CLEMENTS is an outstanding English/Language Arts teacher and national presenter. He is well-known for his fast-paced and strategy-packed seminars that focus on helping students significantly improve their writing skills while revitalizing curriculum in ways to increase student engagement and ownership, while reducing teacher take-home paper load. Joel's 22 years of teaching experience (and counting) in secondary ELA classrooms has given him the ability to try dozens of ideas with students – he knows what works and what doesn't. Joel is the author of *Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 6-12)*, the extensive digital resource handbook you will receive at the seminar, as well as the book *Increasing Student Effectiveness Through the Use of Digital Resources*. You won't want to miss this outstanding opportunity with Joel to receive dozens of ideas and strategies you can use to strengthen all your students' writing while saving you valuable time!

Dear Colleague:

Teaching writing is really hard.

I know. That's not a bold statement or a dazzling catchy opener to draw you in. As a hook? Not so great. But that's what it comes down to, isn't it? It can be frustrating, exciting, overwhelming, profound. In fact, if one thinks about it too much, on a logical level? Teaching someone else to write well is, well, impossible. And yet we do it. Every day.

And the blessing/curse of it is that it's also deeply important. Writing is communication and critical thinking. It's the cornerstone of education and the bedrock of a functioning society. Nothing less.

And because it is so big, and because we are asked to do so much, we can get locked into patterns of teaching that overwhelm us – and they start to hurt us and hurt our students. So much of what we do as teachers puts unnecessary strain on us and our students. And so, we must revisit them. We can find ways to refine our practice and spark new life into it. To create kinetic, creative lessons; to give meaningful feedback; to create critical thinkers; to develop students with critical agency.

And to do it without burying ourselves in work at home.

In this seminar, that's what we're here to do. To ask those challenging questions and look at strategies and resources to revitalize and enhance what we already do. Because teaching writing is fun. And challenging. And profound.

My goal is that you will return to your classroom with a wealth of practical strategies and tools for assigning and assessing writing to significantly improve your students' writing and greatly reduce the time you spend grading papers.

I look forward to meeting you at the seminar. ***The day will be packed with exciting new practices, strategies and perspectives that will enable you to teach and assess writing in creative new ways.***

Sincerely,

Joel Clements

P.S. You will also receive **an extensive digital resource handbook** filled with practical, proven strategies, outstanding resources and time-saving digital tools you can use immediately.

"You will return to your classroom with practical strategies and tools to significantly improve your students' writing and greatly reduce your grading time."

What Your Colleagues Say About Joel Clements

*"Joel is **very well spoken and easy to listen to**. I appreciate that I took tools away today that I can apply and use tomorrow. It's not something that makes me scrap anything that I'm already doing."*

– Jordan Miller, High School English Teacher

*"Mr. Clements is **knowledgeable and engaging**. The structure of the seminar allowed time for reflection and avoided information overload."*

– Joseph Forbes, Middle School ELA Teacher

*"Joel **presents great, useful content**. I can use all of it in my classroom immediately. That's rare!"*

– Darrah Dayson, Middle School Language Arts Teacher

*"Joel is a **fantastic presenter** – low-key, calm and willing to listen. His ideas are creative, effective and easy to implement."*

– Heather Kauk, High School ELA Teacher

*"Joel shares **excellent, practical ideas!**"*

– Ashley Skinner, Middle School Language Arts Teacher

*"I appreciate Joel sharing **many teaching strategies and techniques that are truly applicable to my classroom** and students' learning needs!"*

– Shannon Guy, 7th Grade ELA Teacher



About BER Seminars

Outstanding Instructors

All programs are led by outstanding, top-rated BER national trainers.

Extensive Digital Resource Handbook

You'll receive an extensive digital Resource Handbook full of practical strategies and resources.

Highly Interactive

You'll be able to ask questions, consult with the instructor, and share ideas with other participants.

Program Guarantee

As we have for 49 years, we guarantee the high quality of our programs. If you are not satisfied, we'll give you a 100% refund.

Special Benefits of Attending



'Joel was a great, engaging presenter. The information was incredibly helpful, relevant, and useful.'

– AMY GRENDZINSKI,
ENGLISH TEACHER

On-Site Training

Most BER seminars can be brought to your school or district in-person or online. See the options at www.ber.org/onsite or call 877-857-8964 to speak to one of our On-Site Training Consultants.

Extensive Digital Resource Handbook

Each participant will receive an extensive digital resource handbook giving you access to countless strategies. The handbook includes:

- Practical, ready-to-use strategies and techniques to strengthen student writing and significantly reduce your take-home papers to grade
- Motivational engagement strategies that can be used to focus your class at the beginning of periods or as entire lessons
- Effective, accessible resources for helping your students meet your state's standards for writing
- Powerful strategies using a variety of multimodal tools to increase your students' motivation, involvement and success as writers in an age of constantly evolving technology
- Proven activities that generate active participation in writing and editing, promote higher-level critical thinking and motivate students to grow as writers
- Sample lesson plans that will help you "fit it all in"

Share Ideas with Other Educators

This seminar provides a wonderful opportunity for participants to share ideas with other educators interested in enhancing the writing skills of their students.

Consultation Available

Joel Clements will be available for consultation regarding your questions and the unique needs of your own program.

Meet Inservice Requirements / Earn State CEUs

Participants of Live Online Seminars and those completing the Recorded Version online can receive a certificate of participation that may be used to verify five continuing education hours. For details about state CEUs available, visit www.ber.org/ceus

Earn One to Four Graduate Semester Credits



University of
Massachusetts
Global
A nonprofit affiliate

Up to four graduate-level professional development credits are available with an additional fee and completion of follow up practicum activities. Details may be found at www.ber.org/credit

Can't Attend?

Other Professional Development Options:



Recorded Version of the Seminar

Order the recorded version of this seminar to take online at your convenience. You'll have 90-day access to the entire course and to the extensive digital resource handbook. To enroll, see registration form on page 7, and for optional CEUs and graduate credit, please visit www.ber.org/credit



Related On-Demand Online Courses

Related On-Demand Video-Based Online Learning courses, *Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Decreasing Grading Time*, for Grades 6-12, *Strengthening Your Students' Writing Skills by Teaching Smarter, Not Harder*, for Grades 6-12, and other writing related courses, are available for immediate registration. To enroll, visit www.ber.org/online

Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 6-12)

Registration (WSC7W1)

- ☐ **1. January 19, 2027** (Start time: 9 AM Central)
- ☐ **2. January 25, 2027** (Start time: 9 AM Eastern)
- or—
- ☐ **3. I'd like to order the recorded version of this seminar**

FIRST NAME M.I. LAST NAME

POSITION, SUBJECT TAUGHT GRADE LEVEL

SEMINAR NUMBER: _____ (Please see list above)

List additional registrants on a copy of this form

SCHOOL NAME

SCHOOL MAILING ADDRESS

CITY & STATE ZIP CODE

SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER HOME PHONE NUMBER

() ()

Registration confirmations and login details are sent via e-mail

E-MAIL ADDRESS (REQUIRED FOR EACH REGISTRANT)

HOME MAILING ADDRESS

CITY & STATE ZIP CODE

IMPORTANT – PRIORITY ID CODE: EWSC7W1

METHOD OF PAYMENT – Team Discount Available

The registration fee is \$295 per person;
for teams of three or more registering at the same time, the fee is \$275
per person. **Payment is due prior to the program.** No cash, please.

- ☐ A check (payable to **Bureau of Education & Research**) is attached
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(Be sure to include priority ID code on the P.O.)
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FIVE EASY WAYS TO REGISTER:



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Bellevue, WA 98004

Program Hours

All **Live Online Seminars** are scheduled 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM in the time zone indicated. Check in 15 minutes prior. Registrants will be sent login information by email four days before their Live Online Seminar.

Fee

The registration fee is \$295 per person, \$275 per person for groups of three or more registering at the same time. Call us at 800-735-3503 for groups of ten or more. **Payment is due prior to the program.**

Fee includes seminar registration, a certificate of participation and an extensive digital resource handbook. The fee is the same for Live Online Seminars or Recorded Seminars.

WA residents: visit www.dor.wa.gov/TaxRateLookup to find your required WA sales tax rate.

Cancellation/Substitutions

100% of your paid registration fee will be refunded if you can't attend and notify us at least 10 days before the seminar. Late cancellations made prior to the event date will be refunded less a \$15 service fee. Substitutions may be made at any time without charge.

Program Guarantee

We stand behind the high quality of our programs by providing the following unconditional guarantee: If you are not satisfied with this program, we'll give you a 100% refund of your registration fee.

Further Questions

Call the Bureau of Education & Research (800) 735-3503 or visit us online at **www.ber.org**



WSC7W1

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An outstanding one-day Live Online Seminar

Includes an extensive digital Resource Handbook

Can't Attend Live? Order the Recorded Version
to access online at your convenience

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Increase Your Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Reducing Your Grading Time (Grades 6-12)

WSC7W1

Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 6-12)



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Live Online Seminar or
Recorded Version



A Unique One-Day Live Online Seminar

(Or Order the Recorded Version to Access Online at Your Convenience)

Presented by

Joel Clements

National Presenter, Author and
Acclaimed English/Language Arts Teacher

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Practical, ready-to-use methods and techniques for assigning and evaluating student writing that maximize student involvement and autonomy

Dynamic, powerful strategies to engage today's students and make writing more meaningful

Navigate the AI moment without losing your mind — Practical strategies for AI detection, ethical use, and rebuilding authentic student investment in writing

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