

# Strengthen Your Students' Writing Skills and Significantly Reduce Your Assessment Time by Using **POWERFUL DIGITAL WRITING STRATEGIES** (Grades 6-12)



Seminar Presented by **JOEL CLEMENTS**  
Outstanding English/Language Arts Teacher and Presenter

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

- **Practical, ready-to-use strategies and techniques** for using digital writing to strengthen and increase student writing while significantly reducing your take-home grading
- **Powerful, innovative ways to integrate technology** into your assessment and instruction to help your students meet your state standards for production and distribution of writing
- Utilize **highly effective, accessible digital resources** to create consistent, meaningful feedback on student writing
- **Specific, step-by-step methods** to incorporate innovative teaching and assessing strategies to ensure a greater amount of quality student writing in multiple genres while decreasing your assessment time

## 2019 SCHEDULE

### New York

**Albany – November 12**  
(Latham)

**Buffalo – November 15**  
(Amherst)

**Rochester – November 14**

**Syracuse – November 13**

5 NY CTLE Hours Available

PA CPE Hours Verification Available  
with Prior District Approval in Buffalo

“*This seminar gives a very clear and concise guide to using technology in teaching writing. Great tips for using tools and apps with students.*”

– EMI TAKACS, TEACHER

## Practical Strategies

If you are looking for quick, proven and practical ways to enhance your writing curriculum in creative ways, and to incorporate powerful digital writing strategies in your English/language arts classes, you won't want to miss this outstanding new seminar. The focus for this fast-paced day is on providing innovative, ready-to-use strategies for using digital writing in conjunction with giving your students authentic writing experiences, enabling them to see immediate growth in their writing, and using your teacher time in the most valued ways. **Joel Clements**, a secondary teacher who works closely with technology in middle and high school classrooms, will share a wealth of lesson ideas and strategies to help all students write to a clearer audience with meaningful evaluation, while enabling teachers to focus on other tasks besides grading essays. From your struggling students to your more advanced writers, these digital tools work! Throughout this valuable day, Joel will demonstrate and model lessons you can use in your classroom, complete with student writing samples and a wealth of proven digital assessment programs, tips and tools that will save you time. Whether you are an English/language arts teacher, a content-area teacher or an instructional coach, you will find Joel's ideas to be innovative, easy-to-use and extremely helpful as you begin implementing digital tools for you and your students to assess their writing in your secondary classroom.

***Each participant will receive an extensive resource handbook filled with specific lesson ideas, model materials, and proven strategies for incorporating outstanding, timesaving digital writing strategies in your classroom.***

## Ten Key Benefits of Attending

- 1. Strengthen Your Students' Writing with 21st-Century Strategies**  
Learn practical strategies for using digital writing to teach your students to work more efficiently and effectively on writing tasks ... Ensure a greater amount of quality student writing in a variety of genres
- 2. Significantly Reduce the Time You Spend Grading Student Writing**  
See how to use digital writing and the electronic sphere to teach your students to create meaningful assessment of their own and each others' writing ... Proven ways to increase your teaching time and spend far less time grading!
- 3. Provide Highly Effective Feedback to Improve Students' Writing**  
Move beyond the traditional, time-consuming essay grading structure with minimal learning-curve ... Techniques for re-thinking how we teach writing in a way that maximizes student learning, decreases grading and utilizes digital resources to increase student ownership and facilitate the effectiveness of your feedback
- 4. Empower Students to Critically Navigate and Utilize Writing with Current Technology**  
Utilize research-based approaches for teaching students to utilize databases and online resources and to see the power of writing in the digital age
- 5. Increase Students' Understanding of Purpose and Audience in Their Writing**  
Discover proven ways to use a variety of multimodal tools to heighten purpose and audience for the student writer ... How to effectively use classroom time for creative processes and more meaningful conferencing
- 6. Determine How to Best Implement Digital Writing and Assessing in Your Existing Writing Program**  
Look at multiple strategies to select and implement digital assessments that will work best for the classroom and style you've already developed ... Learn key steps to most effectively use digital assessments to enhance your current writing program
- 7. Discover Outstanding Resources to Implement Digital Writing Strategies**  
Learn about powerful Web 2.0 resources that support your effective implementation of the writing standards ... Dozens of highly useful assessment resources and excellent tools that will save you time and motivate your students
- 8. Use Innovative, Creative Ways to Digitally Assess all Genres of Writing**  
Discover new, effective ways to teach students how to produce and critique narrative, persuasive, informative/explanatory, and creative writing
- 9. Develop and Strengthen Student Writing Using Technology**  
Utilize technology to produce, edit, collaborate, publish, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback ... New strategies for students to discuss, organize and convey their ideas and information
- 10. Substantially Increase the Time You Spend Actually Teaching!**  
Receive extensive ideas that will allow you to immediately spend less time grading and more time in creative instruction and productive conferencing ... Yes, less time grading and more time focusing on innovative ways to engage students in much higher levels of writing proficiency

## Outstanding Strategies You Can Use Immediately

- **Innovative ways to use digital writing strategies** to help your students increase the quality of their writing to meet your state standards
- **How to stop taking piles of papers home to grade** and start using amazing digital writing strategies that your students will engage with, and learn from
- **Practical, proven strategies to implement digital writing in multiple writing genres**
- **Tips for using quality, interactive rubrics** that require students to process their writing at a more meaningful level
- Manageable ways to **address the needs of all your students** through innovative digital assessments
- Outstanding, ready-to-use ideas for **integrating digital writing** with your current writing programs
- **Creative ways to incorporate collaboration between students** in evaluating and assessing their writing skills
- **Powerful questioning techniques that challenge students** to develop and use higher-level thinking skills in conjunction with their writing
- How to **get students invested in the process** of writing, leading to stronger finished products
- Eliminating the battles over **tracking and identifying plagiarism** using online resources
- **Outstanding, student-tested digital rubrics** that allow an invested audience to provide specific feedback to students in a timely manner
- **Engaging ways to teach the conventions** of standard English, while meeting the demanding needs of our digital natives
- How to utilize digital resources to **give targeted feedback that reduces grading time** and increases student progress
- How to **increase students' confidence in writing** and focus less on grades and more on achieving substantive personal goals
- Where to **locate outstanding resources** that support the effective implementation of digital writing assessments
- How to **get students serious about peer feedback**
- Actual **examples of student engagement** using digital writing
- Techniques that **promote effective articulation between students** about writing
- **How to differentiate instruction and assessment** in your secondary English classroom
- **Proven tips for working more efficiently and effectively** spending more time collaborating and creating, and less time grading papers

“ *This is an incredibly informative and relevant seminar for development of a 21st Century classroom! The information is ready to use and completely applicable to the English classroom at all levels – especially the secondary level.* ”

– HEATHER AUSTIN, ENGLISH TEACHER



**To Register,  
Call Toll-Free**

**1-800-735-3503**

# A Message From Your Seminar Leader, Joel Clements



**Bureau of Education & Research**

915 118th Avenue SE • PO Box 96068 • Bellevue, WA 98009-9668  
Phone (800) 735-3503 • Fax (425) 453-1134 • [www.ber.org](http://www.ber.org)

Dear Colleague:

It's Monday morning. You gave up most of your Sunday to grade essays. Again. You handed them back 5 minutes ago, and now you're staring at them in the recycle bin. We've all been there. Teaching writing effectively may be the single most difficult challenge we, as English teachers, face. We find ourselves dumping endless hours of grading and hoping against hope that the students will go through each comment thoughtfully and reflectively. And when they don't respond as we'd want, it can be easy to question our own effectiveness.

I spent years getting increasingly frustrated – by lack of progress, and by the nagging sense that there just had to be a better way. When I started exploring digital writing tools and creative ways of applying them it was as if things just started falling in to place. My grading got faster and easier, and yet I discovered my assignments and feedback having far more substantive and meaningful impact. I can tell you honestly and sincerely that the strategies we'll be exploring and the platforms for working within the digital sphere can have a profound impact on the time you can spend working directly with your students. Your students will be more engaged in the writing process, in collaboration and in critical thinking.

My goal is that you will return to your classroom with a wealth of practical strategies and tools for using digital writing to significantly improve your students' writing and greatly reduce the time you spend grading papers. To achieve this we will answer the following:

- What do digital writing strategies look like? Which ones will work best for you?
- How can you incorporate them into your current writing program?
- How can you enhance your skills as an effective writing teacher and continue to hold students to a high standard?
- What are some ways you can encourage your students to be more involved in their writing?
- How can innovative strategies and digital writing be used in getting students toward the Common Core State Standards?

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 use digital writing assessments in your secondary English classroom; save you hours of grading time; and significantly enhance your secondary students' writing skills.

Sincerely,

Joel Clements

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

“*My goal in this seminar is that you will return to your classroom with a wealth of practical strategies and tools for using digital writing assessments to significantly improve your students' writing and greatly reduce the time you spend grading papers.*”

# What Your Colleagues Say About Joel Clements

*"I loved this seminar! I am walking away with concrete tools that I can implement immediately, including many ideas for long-term planning and goals. Joel is an engaging, knowledgeable and confident presenter."*

– Lori Caldeira, 7th Grade ELA

*"I appreciate all the new information! I am a novice at using technology and today's seminar has given me a great starting point (and beyond)."*

– Christina Taylor, Teacher

*"Wonderful seminar! Many useful, practical, inspiring tools and approaches are presented in a clear and personable way. I appreciate Joel's presentation style."*

– Yosha Bourgea, Middle School Language Arts/Drama Teacher

*"Excellent seminar! Knowledgeable presenter! Meaningful resources!"*

– Annie Matthews, English Teacher/Technology Integration Specialist

*"Excellent presentation at all levels! It is refreshing to attend a technology seminar that does not assume that all attending are technology gurus. I love the practical applications and pacing of the presentation. Joel has a grounded approach, awesome sense of humor and is very much in-tune with his audience. This is the best seminar I have attended in years!"*

– Vicki Coble, High School English Teacher

*"Joel is extremely helpful! He moves at a pace that everyone can follow, addresses all questions and concerns and provides a range of invaluable tools to meet teacher and student needs."*

– Heather Lora, High School English Teacher

*"I really enjoyed how realistic Joel is about the everyday situations teachers run into in the area of writing. The content is informative and engaging and I learned new ideas that I can implement into my everyday grading routines. This seminar was well worth my time!"*

– Michelle Dane, High School English Teacher

*"Joel is very informative and very engaging!"*

– Daniel Roubian, High School English Teacher

*"I especially appreciate Joel's straightforward, low-key, practical approach. He encouraged us to completely reinvent our teaching. The information he shared will be immediately useful for the way I'm currently teaching."*

– Jeff Vanderwilt, High School Religion Teacher

*"I am already a technology user and am familiar with many of the sites and apps discussed, yet I found great value in re-examining them and being exposed to new ones. The format of the presentation is great! It is perfectly paced for those who are new to technology, and engaging for those who are already experienced using technology."*

– Rachel Thomas, Middle School Teacher

*"I appreciate how realistic and doable this all seems! I am new to teaching and technology can sometimes overwhelm me. I like how the apps and resources are broken into categories. I now feel that I know what to look for."*

– Taylor DiBernardo, Middle School English Teacher

## Uniquely Qualified Instructor

**Joel Clements** is currently a full-time English/language arts teacher specializing in writing-intensive courses. He has worked with many departments and committees across the country from the middle school to the college level on new strategies for teaching writing and incorporating digital assessments.

Joel has a wealth of experience using digital tools for writing and has seen the incredible impact they can have at all levels of writing. He is the author of *Strengthen Your Students' Writing Skills and Significantly Reduce Your Assessment Time by Using POWERFUL DIGITAL WRITING STRATEGIES (Grades 6-12)*, the extensive resource handbook each participant will receive at the seminar. Additional authorship credits include several published short stories and essays, as well as two plays.

**At the conclusion of this fast-paced day, you will leave inspired and excited about the dozens of practical, innovative ideas for using digital writing assessments to make your life easier and to significantly boost your students' writing skills.**



# Special Benefits of Attending



## Who Should Attend

Educators serving grades 6-12: English/Language Arts Teachers, Classroom Teachers, Content-Area Teachers, Literacy Specialists, Special Education Staff, and Administrators.

## Online Learning

BER offers educators a wide range of online courses that are affordable, fun, fast, and convenient. BER is now offering On Demand Video-Based courses. You may earn optional graduate-level credits for most courses. See the catalog of available courses at [www.ber.org/online](http://www.ber.org/online)

## On-Site Training

Most BER seminars can be brought to your school or district. See the options at [www.ber.org/onsite](http://www.ber.org/onsite) or call 877-857-8964 to speak to one of our On-Site Training Consultants.

## Extensive Resource Handbook

Each participant will receive an extensive resource handbook with a wealth of materials specifically designed for this seminar. Included in the handbook are:

- Practical, ready-to-use strategies and techniques for using online/digital writing tools to strengthen student writing and significantly reduce your take-home papers to grade
- Timesaving digital, interactive rubrics and ideas for assessments to provide quick and effective feedback for students
- Effective, accessible digital resources for helping your students meet the demands of your state 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

## Meet and Share

This seminar provides an excellent opportunity for participants to meet and share ideas with other secondary educators interested in strengthening their students' writing skills and reducing the amount of time spent evaluating student writing.

## Consultation Available

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

## Earn One to Four Graduate Semester Credits

Up to four graduate level professional development credits are available with an additional fee and completion of follow-up practicum activities. Details for direct enrollment with Brandman University, part of the Chapman University system, will be available at the seminar.

## Meet Inservice Requirements

At the end of the program, each attendee will receive a certificate of participation that may be used to verify hours of participation in meeting continuing education requirements.

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RESOURCE HANDBOOK

by Joel Clements



Bureau of Education & Research

## Can't Attend?

### Other Professional Development Options:

#### Related Online Courses

Related On Demand Video-Based Online Learning courses, *Strategies! Strategies! Strategies! Significantly Increase Students' Writing Skills*, 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](http://www.ber.org/online)

# Strengthen Your Students' Writing Skills and Significantly Reduce Your Assessment Time by Using POWERFUL DIGITAL WRITING STRATEGIES (Grades 6-12)

## Registration (WACOF1)

- 1. **Albany** (Latham), NY – November 12, 2019
- 2. **Buffalo** (Amherst), NY – November 15, 2019
- 3. **Rochester**, NY – November 14, 2019
- 4. **Syracuse**, NY – November 13, 2019

FIRST NAME	M.I.	LAST NAME
_____		
POSITION, SUBJECT TAUGHT	GRADE LEVEL	
_____		
SEMINAR LOCATION 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 are sent via e-mail.  
If you would like a confirmation, please provide your e-mail address.*

E-MAIL ADDRESS	
_____	
HOME MAILING ADDRESS	
_____	
CITY & STATE	ZIP CODE
_____	_____

## IMPORTANT: PRIORITY ID CODE EWACOF1

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

The registration fee is \$279 per person, for groups of three or more registering at the same time, the fee is \$259 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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-  REGISTER ONLINE at: [www.ber.org](http://www.ber.org)
-  FAX this form to: **1-425-453-1134**
-  PHONE toll-free: **1-800-735-3503** (Weekdays 6 am - 5 pm Pacific Time)
-  MAIL this form to: **Bureau of Education & Research**  
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Bellevue, WA 98009-9668

## PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED DUE TO LIMITED ENROLLMENT

## Program Hours

All seminars are scheduled 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.  
Check-in 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

## Fee

The registration fee is \$279 per person, \$259 per person for groups of three or more registering at the same time. Call us at 1-800-735-3503 for groups of ten or more. **Payment is due prior to the program.** No cash please. Fee includes seminar registration, morning coffee and tea, a personalized certificate of participation, and an extensive resource handbook.

## Meeting Sites and Hotel Accommodations

Seminars will be held at the following sites:

- Albany: The Century House – Latham, (518) 785-0931
- Buffalo: Marriott – Amherst, (716) 689-6900
- Rochester: Holiday Inn – Downtown, (585) 546-3450
- Syracuse: Sheraton, (315) 475-3000

If needed, please make your own hotel reservations by calling the appropriate hotel listed above.

## Cancellations/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 can exchange for a certificate to attend another seminar or will be refunded less a \$15 service fee. Substitutions may be made anytime without charge.

## Further Questions

Call the Bureau of Education & Research (800) 735-3503 or visit us online at [www.ber.org](http://www.ber.org). The Bureau is North America's leading presenter of seminar training for professional educators. Programs are based on sound research, are highly practical in content and consistently receive excellent evaluations.

## 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.



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## Use Digital Writing Strategies to Enhance Student Writing Skills and Reduce Time Spent on Grading (Grades 6-12)

- **The Most Up-To-Date Approaches to Reduce Time Spent on Grading**
- **A Unique One-Day Seminar**
- **Coming to a Location Near You**

WACOF1

# Strengthen Your Students' Writing Skills and Significantly Reduce Your Assessment Time by Using **POWERFUL DIGITAL WRITING STRATEGIES** (Grades 6-12)



### A Unique One-Day Seminar Coming to a Location Near You

Ready-to-use strategies and techniques for reducing your take-home grading

Innovative ways to integrate technology into your assessment and instruction

Highly effective, accessible digital resources to create consistent, meaningful feedback on student writing

Specific, step-by-step methods to incorporate innovative teaching and assessing strategies



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