Strengthen Your Students’ Writing Skills and Significantly Reduce Your Assessment Time by Using POWERFUL DIGITAL WRITING ASSESSMENTS (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 strengthening and increasing 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 for using digital assessments** to ensure a greater amount of quality student writing in multiple genres while decreasing your assessment time
- Receive an **extensive resource handbook** filled with dozens of strategies, student samples, lessons, activities, and ideas – all designed specifically for grades 6-12 English/language arts teachers to make better use of time and appreciably enhance student writing

**2017 SCHEDULE**

**Massachusetts**

*Boston – February 1 (Natick)*
Contact Hours Verification Available
CT Five (5) Contact Hours Available with Prior District Approval
RI Five (5) Contact Hours Available

**New York**

*Albany – January 31 (Troy)*
NY CPE Hours Verification Available with Prior District Approval

**Ohio**

*Cleveland – February 3 (Middleburg Heights)*
OH CEUs Available with District Approval

**Pennsylvania**

*Pittsburgh – February 2 (Coraopolis)*
PA CPE Hours Verification Available with Prior District Approval

**Rhode Island**

*Providence – January 30 (Warwick)*
RI Five (5) Contact Hours Available
CT Five (5) Contact Hours Available with Prior District Approval
For MA, Contact Hours Verification Available
Practical Strategies

If you are looking for quick, proven and practical strategies to teach writing, and how to incorporate powerful digital writing resources in your English/ language arts classes, you won’t want to miss this outstanding seminar. The focus for this fast-paced day is on providing innovative, ready-to-use strategies 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, through a revolutionary approach to teaching writing, and through the use of digital writing resources.

In this outstanding seminar, English/language arts teacher, Joel Clements, will share a wealth of lesson ideas and strategies to help all students write more clearly to their audience and integrate 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 assessments in your classroom.

Ten Key Benefits of Attending

1. **Significantly Reduce the Time You Spend Grading Student Writing**
   Learn proven strategies and digital resources to teach your students to create meaningful assessments of their own and each others’ writing … Ensure a greater amount of quality writing in a variety of genres

2. **Strengthen Your Students’ Writing with Digital Writing Assessments**
   Learn practical strategies for using digital assessments 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

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 Assessments 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 Assessments**
   Learn and explore powerful online resources that support the effective implementation of writing standards … Experience new online resources for writing and explore strategies to employ the resources you already use in new ways

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 help your students increase the quality of their writing

- **How to stop taking piles of papers home to grade** and start using amazing digital writing resources that your students will engage with and learn from

- How to utilize **targeted feedback that reduces grading time** and increases student progress

- **Practical, proven strategies** to implement outstanding digital writing assessments 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 resources with your current writing program, as much or as little as fits your, and your students’ needs

- **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

- **Engaging ways to teach the conventions** of standard English, while meeting the demanding needs of our digital natives

- How to increase students’ confidence in writing, and to 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

- **Specific, step-by-step processes to implement digital assessments** for those who are both novice and veteran technology users

- **How to differentiate instruction and assessment** in your secondary classroom

- **Proven tips for working more efficiently and effectively**, spending more time collaborating and creating, and less time grading papers

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“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, HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER

To Register, Call Toll-Free

1-800-735-3503
A Message
From Your
Seminar Leader,
Joel Clements

Dear Colleague:

It’s Monday morning. You gave up most of your Sunday to grade essays, again! You handed them back five 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 teachers face.

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 re-thinking how to teach writing and exploring digital writing tools to find creative ways of applying these ideas, 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 these techniques and the use of digital writing assessments can have a profound impact on the time you can spend working directly with your students.

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

• How can we re-think the way we teach writing to best meet students’ needs and enable us to give the most meaningful feedback?
• What do digital writing resources 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 digital writing tools be used in getting students toward your state standards?

Our day together will be packed with exciting new practices, strategies and digital resources for your secondary English classroom that will save you hours of grading time and significantly enhance your secondary students’ writing skills.

I look forward to meeting you at the seminar!

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.
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 ASSESSMENTS (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.*

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
Special Benefits of Attending

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 as well as Scheduled Instructor-Led courses. You also may earn optional graduate-level credits for most courses. See the catalog of available courses at www.ber.org/onlinelearning

Can’t Attend?
Other Professional Development Options:

• Related Staff Development Audio Training
A related BER seminar, Practical Strategies for Achieving Success with Struggling Readers and Writers (Grades 6-12), presented by another BER presenter, Larry Lewin, is available on CDs with a comprehensive resource handbook at a cost of $99.00 plus $9.00 shipping and handling. To order, call toll-free 1-800-735-3503 (Stock #A-HRL-1961) or use the order form on the back page. Please visit www.berproducts.org/audio-seminars.html for more information.

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 meets 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.

Semester Credit Option
Graduate level elective credit is available with an additional fee and completion of a follow-up practicum project. 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

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

Please visit www.berproducts.org/audio-seminars.html for more information.
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.

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

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 $245 per person, $225 per person for groups of five 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.

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. 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.

Meeting Sites and Hotel Accommodations
Seminars will be held at the following sites:
- Albany: Hilton Garden Inn – Troy, (518) 272-1700
- Boston: Hampton Inn – Natick, (508) 653-5000
- Cleveland: Crowne Plaza – Airport, (440) 243-4040
- Pittsburgh: Sheraton – Airport, (412) 262-2400
- Providence: Hilton Garden Inn – Airport, (401) 734-9600
If needed, please make your own hotel reservations by calling the appropriate hotel listed above.

Possible Funding Sources
Elementary and Secondary Education Act funds, including Title I School Improvement grants; Title VI; Title VII; Restructuring grants; At-Risk grants, Bilingual/ESL and Migrant Education funds; IDEA; Demonstration School funds; Parent Teacher Organizations; and Inservice Training funds.

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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Registration (WAC7W1)

☐ 1. Albany (Troy), NY – January 31, 2017
☐ 2. Boston (Natick), MA – February 1, 2017
☐ 3. Cleveland (Middleburg Heights), OH – February 3, 2017
☐ 4. Pittsburgh (Coraopolis), PA – February 2, 2017
☐ 5. Providence (Warwick), RI – January 30, 2017

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  EWAC7W1

METHOD OF PAYMENT

The registration fee is $245 per person, for groups of five or more registering at the same time, the fee is $225 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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(Found on back of card)

Please print name as it appears on card Signature (required for credit card purchases)

CAN’T ATTEND?

☐ I’d like to order the CD version of the related seminar, Practical Strategies for Achieving Success with Struggling Readers and Writers (Grades 6-12), by Larry Lewin, $99.00 plus $9.00 shipping (Stock #A-HRL-1961).

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