

Strengthen Students' Writing of **MULTIPLE-PARAGRAPH ESSAYS** While You Significantly Reduce Take-Home Papers to Read (Grades 6-12)



Seminar Presented by MARY LEDBETTER

Outstanding Teacher, National Presenter and Author

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

- ▶ **Learn a process, not a formula**, for teaching students how to write quality, multiple-paragraph essays that require students to assume responsibility for the inclusion of key elements required in a paper to strengthen structure, voice and elaboration
- ▶ Scaffold students as they write clear, focused and original multi-paragraph essays – **lessons you can adapt to your content and meet the Common Core State Standards**
- ▶ **Gain specific daily lessons to help students break down multi-paragraph essays** into manageable chunks for developing their ideas, staying focused, adding support and details, and revising effectively
- ▶ Discover how to help your students **strengthen their writing while reducing your take-home papers to grade**
- ▶ **Dozens of mini-lesson ideas students can immediately apply** to their writing during class while you assess individual students for daily grades

2014 SCHEDULE

Illinois

Champaign – April 11
(Urbana)

Chicago – April 8
(Bloomington)

Peoria – April 10
(East Peoria)

Rockford – April 9

IL CPDUs Available (5 Hours)

Wisconsin

Appleton – April 7
(Neenah)

WI Verification of Attendance Available
MI SCECH Available (5 Hours)

“ ***BEST seminar I have ever attended! It was practical, flexible and I feel like I can change the way I teach writing tomorrow.*** ”

– KATIE JOSEPH, 8TH GRADE
HISTORY/WRITING TEACHER

Practical Ideas and Strategies

Are you looking for strategies to increase your students' success when writing multiple-paragraph essays that also meet the *Common Core State Standards*? Would you like to give your students the key feedback they need to improve their writing while you take home fewer papers to grade? If so, you won't want to miss this innovative seminar filled with practical and easy-to-implement strategies that will significantly improve your students' writing of multi-paragraph essays and reduce your take-home reading and grading of piles of essays. Throughout the day you will gain practical ways for using instructional, in-class time to have students write, assess and revise their work in class as they progress through the writing process. Mary will walk you through a step-by-step strategy for breaking the essay into manageable pieces that students can handle with greater success. In addition, you will receive and review countless, ready-to-use generic assignments, lists of twenty-minute, meaningful writing activities your students can do during class, and assessments that will fit right into what you are teaching.

Not only will you leave this seminar with a wealth of new ideas and specific methods to help your students improve their writing skills, you will also leave with a renewed energy for teaching. Don't miss this interactive day with Mary Ledbetter!



Ten Key Benefits of Attending

1. Help Your Students Write High-Quality, Multiple-Paragraph Essays that Address the *Common Core State Standards*

Learn dozens of ready-to-use strategies to help your students strengthen the quality of their writing and become active, in-class participants in revising and editing their own work ... How you can give grades in class for each student's daily work that saves you from taking papers home to read and grade

2. Significantly Reduce Reading and Grading Essays at Home

Discover how to easily determine your students' progress in small sections of writing *with* students ... Students receive your feedback and revise their work immediately rather than tackling the entire piece at once in isolation

3. Catch Students' Weaknesses Earlier in the Writing Process

How to catch a student's loss of focus, lack of support or poor structure before it's too overwhelming to fix ... Use student-proven strategies to teach key elements of the essay to help students write in stages so you can give feedback earlier when there is time to revise ... Promote an "I-can-do-it" attitude for students

4. Learn a Step-By-Step Process to Break Down the Multiple-Paragraph Essay

You and your students will feel success when working on "bite-size" pieces to write, revise and assess ... How to focus students on particular strengths and weaknesses while their writing is in the rough draft stage

5. Innovative Mini-Lessons in Mechanics and Grammar

Practical ways to use mini-lessons throughout the writing process to teach grammar within the context of student work ... How to base mini-lessons on the predominant errors as segments of papers are being orally assessed

6. Significantly Increase Students' Active, In-Class Participation with Daily Engagement Strategies

Use practical engagement strategies that correlate with specific daily lessons to teach and reinforce writing skills ... Learn methods to ensure that students are engaged ... These strategies require students to immediately apply the strategies to their writing

7. How to Keep the Rest of Your Class Focused While You Conference with Individual Students

Specific, meaningful activities that the rest of the class can do individually or with a partner while conferencing occurs ... Methods of assessing what is being done ... Practical and easy-to-use ideas you won't want to miss!

8. Demonstration of Conferencing Techniques Using Sample Student Papers

Use exemplary papers to model your expectations ... Learn how to raise the bar on papers that don't meet expectations and help students further develop their ideas, details and supporting material

9. Use Models and Samples of Essays to Teach Students the Key Components of Writing

See how samples or models of writing can be used effectively to teach students what quality essays include and what incomplete pieces lack ... How to teach students to read sample essays or papers and mark for structure, voice, elaboration, word choice, and more

10. Participate in a Hands-On Experience in Directed Writing

Practice assessing, revising and conferencing using real writing ... Various methods of peer response strategies will be demonstrated ... Take-home strategies you can use immediately in your classroom to strengthen student writing

Outstanding Strategies You Can Use Immediately

- **Practical and student-proven strategies** to teach your students how to effectively write a multiple-paragraph essay
- **Ideas to help your students meet the *Common Core State Standards* for writing**
- **Stop taking piles of papers home** to grade and start using in-class grading strategies that require students to revise their work
- **Specific, step-by-step process**, not a formula, for breaking down multi-paragraph essays into manageable stages for students
- How you can **catch students' weaknesses early** for on-the-spot, quick revisions resulting in a better essay
- Ways to teach students to **take ownership of their own work**
- **Use interactive strategies that require students to participate** in reading, revising and editing their writing in class in order to receive credit and daily grades
- Ready-to-use strategies to **raise the bar on essays** that don't meet expectations
- **Increase students' confidence in writing by demonstrating the process**
- **Clear, easy-to-use strategies** students can use to check for structure, support and elaboration as they proceed through the writing process
- Increase active participation by having students read aloud parts of their writing for **immediate response and grading during the process** – not when they think they are done!
- How to **get students serious about peer feedback**
- **Break down the process of multiple-paragraph essays** so you can respond and grade along the way
- **Student-interactive rubrics** that are much more than checklists
- **Demonstrations of conferencing techniques** using exemplary, on-target pieces
- **Specific, twenty-minute activities** for the rest of the class while you conference with students
- Strategies to **ensure no grading at home**

“*I can't wait to get back to school to implement these new practices! I also look forward to my new life with no papers to grade at home!*”

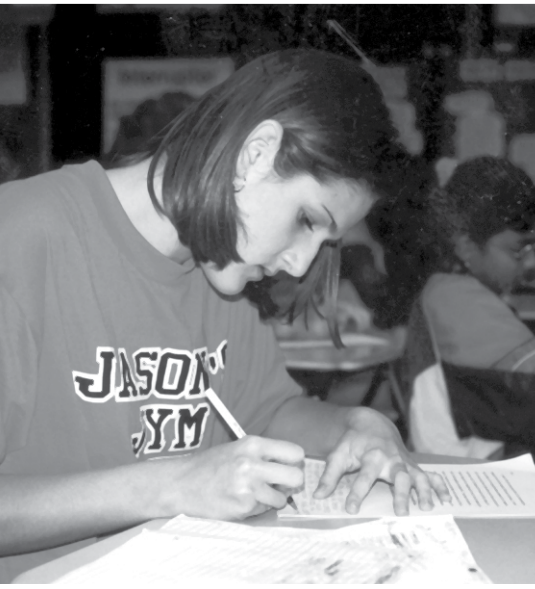
– JULIE WEHBY, MIDDLE SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER



**To Register,
Call Toll-Free**

1-800-735-3503

A Message From Your Seminar Leader, Mary Ledbetter



“ *This seminar will take you through every aspect of a typical week’s writing, focusing on new, student- and teacher-friendly strategies to teach multi-paragraph essay writing ...*”



Bureau of Education & Research

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Phone (800) 735-3503 • Fax (425) 453-1134 • www.ber.org

Dear Colleague:

One of the most important skills a student can learn is the ability to write confidently, on their own, whether it is for formal writing assessments, like the *Common Core State Standards*, or classroom writing assignments. Our goal then, as educators, is to give students the ability to write independently when necessary. This seminar will give you the tools you need to scaffold your instruction of writing to help increase your students’ confidence and independence when writing multiple-paragraph essays.

This seminar will take you through every aspect of a typical week’s writing, focusing on new, student- and teacher-friendly strategies to teach multi-paragraph essay writing, which can transfer to other areas as well. The key is simple, one that will motivate students, empower them and prove to even the most reluctant writers that they can be successful. What makes this seminar unique is that teachers will experience firsthand what their students should be expected to accomplish at every stage of the process in order to meet and exceed expectations. The lessons will demonstrate time-management strategies and methods to keep students on target. I will address the what-to-do-first questions, the “guts” of a “normal” day, and the what-if-this-happens situations with which all teachers at one time or another are confronted.

After our day together, you will no longer have to wonder what the best strategies are to teach your students to increase their skills as writers. You will have samples of actual student writing to use as teaching tools with your students, and you won’t be taking home papers to grade!

I hope you will join me for a fast-paced day filled with ready-to-use ideas, strategies and techniques that will motivate your writing instruction and save you hours of grading and planning time.

Sincerely,

Mary Ledbetter

P.S. **I promise you will leave with practical strategies you can use immediately** with your students and eliminate taking home piles of essays to read and grade!

What Your Colleagues Say About Mary Ledbetter

*"This is the second time I have attended a seminar in which Mary Ledbetter was presenting. I'm using what I learned before in my classroom, and now **I have even more great ideas to use and to share** with my students and colleagues!"*

– Paula Burnette, Middle School L/A Reading Teacher

*"**Mary offers a ton of usable strategies** and makes me want to go back tomorrow and re-vamp my whole curriculum."*

– Laura Tenebruso, 8th Grade Language Arts Teacher

*"I liked the easy-going way this seminar was conducted. **Mary Ledbetter was not only full of knowledge and ideas, but fun and energetic!** The day was totally worthwhile!"*

– Barb Gillespie, Middle School English Teacher

*"**Mary Ledbetter was fabulous!** She gave us well-organized, practical information for the classroom. She also conveyed a real understanding of the life of the teacher and made us feel more empowered as professionals."*

– Kathleen M. Meyer, English/History Teacher

*"I have thoroughly enjoyed this day. **I will take all of the materials to my classes, refreshed and ready to see my students succeed at writing.**"*

– Robin L. Finley, 11th Grade English Teacher/Department Chair

*"**This was excellent! The strategies were practical, fun and I absolutely plan on using them.** Mary was engaging, honest and obviously experienced, which gave her credibility."*

– Emily Spielman, 8th-9th Grade English Teacher

*"**Mary's ideas were explained well and easy to use.** Her ideas and strategies on how to grade papers and increase skills in writing are simple and extremely useful for students of all ages and grade levels."*

– Lindsay Burke, Middle School English Teacher

*"**This is the best seminar that I have ever attended!** Mary gave solutions I can use."*

– Jennifer Lippert, Middle School Language Arts Teacher

*"**I'm walking away from this seminar with a boatload of practical ideas** that I can implement today. Thanks!"*

– Bill Wadman, Language Arts Teacher

*"**Best and most productive seminar I have attended.** Very excited to share with my fellow teachers. Mary Ledbetter MADE the seminar."*

– Beth Freeman, High School English Teacher

*"Excellent! I thoroughly enjoyed the day, and I am leaving with ideas and strategies I can use immediately. **These strategies will dramatically change my classroom and life.**"*

– Karen Langlois, 8th Grade English Teacher

*"Mary Ledbetter's enthusiasm and expertise kept the day fun and interesting. **I am taking home lessons that I will be able to use tomorrow** and in the future. Thanks so much for the humor and respect!"*

– Amy Reece, 6th Grade Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher

Uniquely Qualified Instructor

MARY LEDBETTER is an outstanding English/Language Arts teacher and highly acclaimed national presenter. She is well known for her fast-paced and strategy-packed seminars focusing on helping students significantly improve their writing skills. Given Mary's wealth of experience as a secondary English teacher, she understands the issues teachers face with reading hundreds of papers and has developed a strategy that will **significantly reduce teacher paper load**. She will share her assessment techniques that greatly improve student writing and **increase active participation in class**. She is the author of many books including: *The Writing Teacher's Activity-A-Day, Success Series One, Success Series Two Folders, Writing Portfolios Kit, Ready-to-Use Daily Language Skills*, along with *Strengthen Students' Writing of MULTIPLE-PARAGRAPH ESSAYS While You Significantly Reduce Take-Home Papers to Read (Grades 6-12)*, the extensive resource handbook you will receive at the seminar. **You won't want to miss this outstanding opportunity to get dozens of ideas and strategies you can use immediately with your students to strengthen their skills in writing multiple-paragraph essays.**



“ I appreciate all of the examples given! Mary demystified writing beautifully! Her passion for writing and teaching were evident throughout her presentation.”

– LAURIE DOTSON, LEARNING SPECIALIST



Online Learning

BER offers educators a wide range of online courses that are affordable, fun, fast, and convenient. 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.

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.

Special Benefits of Attending

Extensive Resource Handbook

Each participant will receive an extensive resource handbook specifically designed for this seminar and includes:

- Timesaving grading strategies so you can leave students' papers at school
- Step-by-step writing process, not a formula
- Activities for students while you conference one-on-one
- Examples of student-interactive rubrics
- Student samples of writing you can use in your teaching

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RESOURCE HANDBOOK

by Mary Ledbetter



Bureau of Education & Research

Meet and Share

This seminar provides a wonderful opportunity for participants to meet and share ideas with other grades 6-12 educators seeking practical ways to improve student writing.

Consultation Available

Mary Ledbetter will be available at the seminar for consultation regarding your questions and the unique needs of your writing program.

Semester Credit Option

One graduate elective level 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.

Can't Attend?

A related BER seminar, *Practical Strategies for Achieving Success with Struggling Readers and Writers (Grades 6-12)*, presented by another writing expert, 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-1617**) or use the order form on the back page.

FOUR EASY WAYS TO REGISTER:



PHONE toll-free:

1-800-735-3503

(Weekdays 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. Pacific Time)



REGISTER ONLINE at:

www.ber.org



FAX this form to:

1-425-453-1134



MAIL this form to:

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Bellevue, WA 98009-9668

Who Should Attend

Designed for English/Language Arts Educators Serving Grades 6-12: Classroom Teachers, Content Area Teachers, Literacy Coaches, 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 \$229 per person, \$209 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:

- Appleton: Best Western Premier – Neenah, (920) 967-4350
- Champaign: Eastland Suites – Urbana, (217) 367-8331
- Chicago: Hilton Indian Lakes – Bloomingdale, (630) 529-0200
- Peoria: Stoney Creek Inn – East Peoria, (309) 694-1300
- Rockford: Radisson, (815) 226-2100

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



Possible Funding Sources

Race to the Top grants;
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.

