



LEVEL: Middle School

LESSON: Persuasive Writing

Objectives:

Students will write a persuasive essay that tries to convince everyone in his/her school to participate in helping the hungry of our world.

Materials Needed: notebook paper, pencils, dictionaries, thesauri, Internet access, writing rubric (<http://ed.sc.gov/agency/offices/assessment/PACT/rubrics.html>)

Time Needed: at least two one-hour class periods

Activities:

1. Begin by introducing students to the Rice Bowls website online. Show them the statistics of those who suffer from hunger worldwide. Also, explain the concept of the Rice Bowls to the students.
2. Next, tell students that as a school, we would like to participate in the Rice Bowls campaign to help those in need. In order to do so, each student will write a persuasive essay that tries to convince his peers to join him. Tell the students a winner will be chosen from each class. Each winner will have his/her essay published in the school newsletter.
3. Review the writing process with the students.
4. Guide students as they use the writing process to complete their essays. Remind them to be tactful and convincing. Focus on the positive. Also remind them that in persuasive writing, it helps to start with a statistic. If they would like, allow them time to use the internet and provide websites for students to use that are credible. See attachment below.
5. As students begin finishing their first drafts, assist them as they proofread and revise their essays.
6. Then students will publish their essays.
7. Students may choose to share these essays with the class. You, as the teacher, may choose to publish all of them in the hall as a way to promote Rice Bowls to the school as you begin the campaign to help with the problem of world hunger.

Sources Used:

Holly Jones, Converse College: EDU 623 Instructional Design, Summer II 2008

Guidelines for Struggling Writers

Persuasive Writing

Paragraph 1: Start with a question concerning the topic. This should try to “hook” the audience. Then start with a statistic. Finally, briefly state three reasons we should help with this problem.

Paragraph 2: Restate the first reason. Justify your reason. Convince your audience.

Paragraph 3: Restate your second reason. Justify your reason. Convince your audience.

Paragraph 4: Restate your third reason. Justify your reason. Convince your audience.

Paragraph 5: Restate your topic sentence that briefly states your three reasons to help with the problem of hunger. Then wrap up your persuasive essay as you plead with your audience to agree with you.

For more advanced writers, encourage them to find statistics to use in their introduction and maybe in the body of their essay. Tell them to show their passion as they convince others to join along in the Rice Bowls campaign.

Remind all of the class to focus on the positive, be tactful, and be creative!