

# Why is writing so important?

As William Zinsser states in On Writing Well, "The new information age, for all its high-tech gadgetry, is, finally, writing-based." Writing has never been more important than in this digital age. It is almost inconceivable to achieve academic success without good writing skills. And, while the fundamentals of good writing remain constant, new forms of writing are quickly evolving. Words are regularly joined with images and voices.

--Teachers Are the Center of Education: Writing, Learning and Leading in the Digital Age (College Board, National Writing

Project, Phi Delta Kappa International)

Writing Improvement Network/USC 1530 Wheat Street Columbia, SC 29208



Professional Development for Educators, Schools, & Districts

## WIN is here to help with all of your ELA curriculum and assessment needs.

Funded by the SC Legislature since 1988, WIN is a component of the Center for Educational Partnerships at the College of Education at the University of South Carolina. Since its creation, schools receiving WIN services

have shown improvement.

WIN continues to meet your educational needs in improving efficiency and effectiveness while addressing the latest College- and Career- Ready Standards and their assessments.



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### **Profile of the South Carolina Graduate**

World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences

#### World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

#### Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

- An initiative of TransformSC and New Carolina: Approved by the SCASA Superintendent's Roundtable and the SC Chamber of Commerce



## How does WIN complement and strengthen the Profile of a South Carolina Graduate?

The Writing Improvement Network (WIN) serves as a professional development resource for South Carolina (SC) Pre K-12 teachers. WIN uses teacher experts to provide training in the implementation of research-based best practices in teaching students to become better readers and writers and provides guidance in choosing professional development and classroom resources.

## What can WIN do for you?

- Work side-by-side with teachers to improve instructional strategies and materials for all aspects of language arts: reading, writing, vocabulary, research, and technology
- Work directly with students (as teachers observe) to demonstrate effective instructional strategies for all aspects of literacy: content, disiplinary, and multimedia
- Assist teachers with development of instructional materials and classroom assessments that align to the correct grade-level and appropriate cognitive rigor of academic standards
- Demonstrate for teachers how to analyze available test information to improve instruction
- Review district ELA curriculum for alignment and rigor and recommend revisions
- Assist teachers in transitioning instruction and assessments to College- and Career- Ready Standards
- Provide off-site workshops often by grade band (Pre K – 5, 6 -12) – for teachers and administrators across the state to learn specific instructional strategies and share their own professional experiences with others