

## Sentence Composing

Looking for a good class warm-up or sponge activity? *Daily Sentence Composing* is the answer. This excellent program uses mentor text (authentic text from published adolescent literature) as models from which to teach. This program is most successful when teachers allow time for students to share and compare their sentence imitations. To really make the most of their sentence manipulation, students should then try to embed some of these models into their daily writing. This step of applying it to their own writing will help to transfer their knowledge. Encourage students to find additional examples of the models they are learning from their own recreational reading, too.

Materials were purchased so that all language arts teachers could have a class set of non-consumable student workbooks along with a teacher's edition. If for some reason you feel as if you need to use these consumably, please contact Amy Goodman at 267-0221 so something can be worked out.

Below is some background information from the teacher's edition:

The purpose of *Daily Sentence Composing* is to improve students' ability to write varied and interesting sentences through the combination of model sentences from professional writers and five sentence-composing strategies. *Daily Sentence Composing* provides a daily opportunity for students to integrate the three main components of language arts programs – grammar, literature, and writing. The emphasis for middle school is primarily sentence manipulation, with focus on grammatical concepts and application to the improvement of students' own sentences.

### The Five Strategies

1. Chunking
2. Unscrambling
3. Combining
4. Imitating
5. Expanding



*Click image for more information*

Two main teaching approaches apply: students should write out all the sentences and students should discuss and compare their sentences. The lessons require about 10 minutes a day.