



## ***Keys to Content Writing for SEI and Second Language Learners***

**Description:** This version of *Keys to Content Writing* emphasizes the unique needs that English language learners (ELLs) have related to writing. Teachers learn instructional practices that address writing requirements of the Common Core, including frequent long and short writing in all subject areas. During professional development, educators learn how to teach writing in an SEI (Sheltered English Immersion) classroom using existing content instructional materials. They also learn how to use *Keys to Content Writing* strategies to consolidate content and make it more accessible to ELLs, and to create opportunities for elaborated talk about content between ELLs and fluent English peers. When used across multiple grade levels, students benefit from a consistent approach to writing instruction as they move from grade to grade and subject to subject.

Instructional practices in *Keys to Content Writing for SEI and English as a Second Language* address these topics, strategies and skills:

- ELLs and language skills: how difficulty in basic language skills affects the writing ability of ELLs
- Differentiation and scaffolds: how to provide support to students ELLs who bring a wide variety of educational and cultural experiences to the classroom
- Importance of task, audience, purpose
- Stages of the writing process
- Peer collaboration
- Quick writes
- Basic text structures: introductions, conclusions, transitions
- The three types of writing: argument, informational, narrative
- Writing from sources
- Writing models and mentor text
- Writing scaffolds
- Feedback and revision
- Using a Writing Assignment Guide (WAG) to plan content writing assignments

These instructional practices have been identified consistently in the research literature as most effective for improving student writing skills, especially students who struggle with writing.

**Who Should Participate:** Grades 4-5 elementary teachers, grades 6-12 content classroom teachers, educators who provide support to struggling readers, literacy specialists and coaches, and grades 4-12 administrators.

*For more information, please contact:*

**Keys to Literacy**

319 Newburyport Turnpike, Suite 205

Rowley, MA 01969

Phone: 978-948-8511

[www.keystoliteracy.com](http://www.keystoliteracy.com)