THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC

Editing Games That Beat the Traps

25 interactive games for Grades 3 to 5

Grades 3 to 5

Every editing skill for Grades 3 to 5, played as a game

How wrong answers are built, why they are wrong, and the editing skills students meet most

SAMPLE

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Contents

Every game includes teacher instructions, an example round, printable cards, a board and a recording sheet, and a complete answer key. Passages are original and written for Grades 3 to 5.

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Example Round

Here is one full turn, so students see exactly what to say and do. Then a second turn shows a steal.

SAY: "Team 1, draw a card. Read the whole card aloud, then tell us the EDIT trap and prove it."

DO: Team 1 draws Relay Card 1, Passage A. The card asks, "What change should be made in sentence 1?" The wrong answer on the card is, "Change seeds to seed"

STUDENT (reads the card, then says): "The wrong answer is Incomplete or Jumbled. The sentence says, Yesterday we plant seeds in the garden. The choice does not fix the real mistake, so I name the trap Incomplete or Jumbled."

DO: Team 1 names the trap and reads the proof. Team 1 scores.

SAY: "Team 2, your turn. Remember to prove it before you play."

DO: Team 2 dr ws Relay C rd 3 Pass e , an s ys the rap is Extra Error. The card's wrong answer is, "C ang e w it t wai s"

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STUDENT on Team 3 (steals): "That label is wrong. Read the sentence aloud and check each word. The closer trap is Extra Error. The real fix changes the mistake and nothing else."

DO: Team 3 names the trap and the proof. Team 3 earns 1 point.

Why this works

Students practice naming WHY an answer is wrong, not just picking a letter. The same four traps come back in every game in this book.

Passage Sheets

Print one set per team. Sentences are numbered, the way they are on the state assessment. Cards 1 and 2 use Passage A, cards 3 and 4 use Passage B, cards 5 and 6 use Passage C, cards 7 and 8 use Passage D.

Passage A (Grade 3): Commas in compound sentences

(1) The rain stopped and the sun came out.

(2) Puddles shone everywhere.

Passage B (Grade 5): Commas in compound sentences

(1) The orchestra tuned and the curtain rose.

(2) The hall fell silent.

Passage C (Grade 4): Adverbs that convey frequency

(1) She arrives usual early to practice.

(2) The coach counts on her.

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Passage D (Grade 5): Collective nouns

(1) The flock of geese fly south each fall.

(2) The sky fills with wings.

While you read

Before a card is drawn, each team should be able to point to the sentence that holds the mistake. Protect the sentences that are already correct. If a card tells you to change a correct word, or to delete a sentence the paragraph needs, that card is a trap.

Cut Out Clue Cards

Cut along the dashed lines. Each card shows a question and one wrong answer from the passage named on the gold pill.

Clue Card 1

Passage A

Question: What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

Wrong answer: "Change with to without"

Solve the clue to move one stop nearer the X.

Clue Card 2

Passage A

Question: What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

Wrong answer: "Change feathers to feather"

Solve the clue to move one stop nearer the X.

Clue Card 3

Passage B

Question: What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

Wrong answer: "Change under to over"

Solve the clue to move one stop nearer the X.

Clue Card 4

Passage B

Question: What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

Wrong answer: "Change smelled to smells"

Solve the clue to move one stop nearer the X.

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Clue Card 5

Passage C

Question: What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

Wrong answer: "Change in to into"

Solve the clue to move one stop nearer the X.

Clue Card 6

Passage C

Question: What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

Wrong answer: "Change belonged to belongs"

Solve the clue to move one stop nearer the X.

Clue Card 7

Passage D

Question: What change should be made in sentence 1?

Wrong answer: "Change sat to sits"

Solve the clue to move one stop nearer the X.

Clue Card 8

Passage D

Question: What change should be made in sentence 1?

Wrong answer: "Change pit to Pit"

Solve the clue to move one stop nearer the X.

Answer Key, continued

Cards 5 to 8 use Passages C and D.

Item 3, Grade 4 Capitalization of titles of stories. Cards 5 and 6. What change should be made in sentence 1?

A. Change favorite to Favorite. Incorrect. Trap: Extra Error. It changes a word that was already right.

B. Change the talent show to The Talent Show. Correct. This changes the real mistake and nothing else.

C. Change poem to Poem. Incorrect. Trap: Incomplete or Jumbled. Read aloud, it still sounds broken.

D. Change won to wins. Incorrect. Trap: Extra Error. It changes a word that was already right.

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Item 4, Grade 5 Indefinite pronouns. Cards 7 and 8. What change should be made in sentence 1?

A. Change Everyone to Everyones. Incorrect. Trap: Too Weak a Fix. The same mistake is still in the sentence.

B. Change brought to brings. Incorrect. Trap: Incomplete or Jumbled. Read aloud, it still sounds broken.

C. Change their to his or her. Correct. This changes the real mistake and nothing else.

D. Change tables to table. Incorrect. Trap: Too Weak a Fix. The same mistake is still in the sentence.