

About This Book

Welcome!

In this book, you will learn different ways to comprehend, or understand, what you read. First, you will read a short text sample and discuss it with your classmates. Then you will step beyond. You will develop a writing piece based on the sample and learn about a variety of useful references. You will even perform your writing before an audience!

Comprehension is only the beginning.

We invite you to turn the page and Step Beyond comprehension into writing.

About This Book

This book has fifteen units. Each unit begins with a text sample. It can be a story, article or other form of writing. You will read the sample and then do activities.

Reading and Comprehension

In this section, you will answer questions about the text sample. You will also discuss your answers in a group. There are four different types of questions.

Literal

What does the text actually say?

These questions ask for answers you can find directly somewhere in the text. You can explain your answers by saying, “This is exactly what the text says.”

Inferential

What does the text suggest?

These questions ask for answers that the text only suggests. You will have to look for clues that express the answer in another way.

Creative

From your experience, what could the text mean?

These questions ask for answers based on your own experience, opinions and knowledge. Each person’s answers are likely to differ, so you will have to support your answers with information from the text.

Critical

Do you agree with or trust the text?

These questions ask about the author’s message and purpose. The questions may ask whether you agree with or trust the text. You should give reasons for your answers.

Technique and style

Here, you will first learn how authors use words in different ways for a purpose. This is called technique and style. Labels on the text sample show the methods the author uses.

Writing Project



Then you will do a writing project. This part gives you writing ideas and tips based on the text sample. You will discuss the ideas and develop them into a completed work. In some units, you can use the picture cards or picture disk to help you imagine what you are writing about.



Writing Skills



Using references

In this section you learn how to use a dictionary, a thesaurus, a style guide and other references to solve problems in writing. These references are the tools used by authors and editors.



Word knowledge

You will improve your writing with better grammar, punctuation, knowledge of vocabulary and spelling. This section shows you more ways to use references. Sometimes you will need to do this section when you are editing or redrafting your writing in the writing workshop.

The **Editor's hints** help you understand the way writers work, how they organise their ideas and some of the special ways they use words.

Performance and Publication



To publish your writing, you can read it aloud to an audience. This section gives you tips and advice for your performance as a speaker and reader.