

### **SoW (SENTENCE OF THE WEEK)**

As teachers, you will need to find meaningful ways to work with students on grammar, mechanics, and correctness through both simulated and integrated practice. In “Write Like This” Kelly Gallagher approaches teaching these skills through the use of purposeful editing and engaging students in the Sentence of the Week (SoW). Gallagher’s SoW has a series of steps that take place each week. In designing SoW, teachers

1. Write three sentences with something in common on the board for students to copy (i.e all have commas, dialogue, strong verbs, figurative language, etc)
2. Students write the three sentences and list everything they notice about the sentences.
3. Discuss what students are noticing and point out the sentence features that all have in common.
4. Model trying a few sentences that include the selected sentence feature.
5. Students try a sentence with the same features.
6. Students find examples of the selected skills in their writing and/or are asked to write passages incorporating selected skills.

You will be adopting Gallagher’s process into a design in your second mini-lesson presentation.

#### **PART I: TEACHING**

For part of your second mini-lesson presentation, you will adapt Gallagher’s SoW practice, through the following steps.

1. You will draw one of the skills listed on page 215 to teach in a SoW Lesson.
2. You will complete the Sentence of the W Handout.
3. You will teach the skill using Gallagher’s system of showing sentences, having students list and discuss what they noticed and then directly presenting the skill to your peers so that they know how to teach the skill in the classroom..

Your SoW lesson will be short (5 minutes). The goal is to introduce you to a way to bring these skills into the classroom.

#### **PART II: DOING**

In addition, Gallagher discusses how he uses Penny Kittle’s suggestion of a writing portfolio to help students show where in their work they complete specific skills. Following Kittle and Gallagher, you will turn in a portfolio that highlights your use of the above-mentioned skills in your work. The work you choose to include in your portfolio can come from any course. The goal is show that you can pinpoint the places you’ve used the skills in your work. You will use the SoW Chart to mark off the skills you’ve used. You will then highlight the sentences where you’ve used each skill within your work. You only need to select one example of each skill to point out in your work. (For example, you do not need to point out every FANBOY you use.)

#### **Due Dates:**

Sentence of the Week lesson:

Date of your genre mini-lesson

Sentence of the Week Portfolio:

Tuesday April 29

### SENTENCE OF THE WEEK CHECKLIST

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. Place a check next to the skills found in your portfolio.
2. Write the page number where the skill can be found in your portfolio.
3. Highlight and number each of the skills in your portfolio.

Check	Page #		Check	Page #	
		1. Identify a subject and verb			11. A quotation with front attribution
		2. A simple sentence			12. Capitalization rules
		3. A FANBOY (coordinating conjunction) sentence			13. An indirect quotation
		4. An AAWWUBBIS sentence			14. Apostrophes to show possession
		5. Non-AAAWWUBBIS front-branch sentencing			15. Pronoun-antecedent agreement
		6. Middle-branch sentencing			16. A sentence in active voice
		7. Semicolon usage			17. In-text citation
		8. An apostrophe to show contraction.			18. Subject/pronoun agreement
		9. All of the following: your/you're; it's/its; there/their/they're			19. A sentence with a number spelled out AND a sentence with a numeral
		10. A sentence with correct colon usage			20. A sentence with a hyphen in it