“We do not write in order to be understood; we write in order to understand.”

~C. Day Lewis
By the end of meeting, I will *shall*...

- understand the purpose and role of writing across the curriculum
- know basic components of KDE and McNabb’s literacy/writing program requirements
- know what the on demand writing encompasses
- know how to write an on demand prompt
- know where to find on demand and general writing resources
Purpose of Writing Across Content

- According to new state standards (effective 2011-12):
  - 6th & 8th grade will test in on demand writing
  - every school must prove they have implemented a school wide writing program that demonstrates all content areas as stakeholders of writing instruction
  - new core standards for literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

- writing to demonstrate knowledge = more retention of information
- writing really demonstrates their level of understanding
- “Writing is thinking on paper.” ~William Zinsser
McNabb’s Writing Program

1. Three times a year we will give a school wide on demand test to be scored and recorded.* This will be administered in homeroom.

2. In addition to writing, reading, science and social studies classes will assign and score a content related, on-demand-style assignment at least once a year.

3. Math will continue to emphasize open response and can implement other writing strategies (see web page for ideas).

4. Student writing, after it has been through the writing process and received feedback from teacher, will be submitted to a folder being kept for each child.

*We are going to attempt at least two in this year.
ON DEMAND WRITING

- For CATS this is a timed test that requires students to respond to one of two prompts.

---

**Assessment of**

**Content**
- purpose
- audience
- idea development

**Structure**
- organization
- sentence variety
- transitions

**Conventions**
- Grammar & Usage
- Word Choice
- Correctness

---

**Purpose**
- Persuade
- Narrate
- Inform

**Genre**
- Letter
- Article
- Editorial
- Speech

**Audience**
- teacher
- community
- principal
- can be anything
## Open Response vs. On Demand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Open Response</th>
<th>On Demand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scoring</strong></td>
<td>Individualized scoring guide tailored to each question—focus on content</td>
<td>Kentucky Writing Scoring Rubric criteria: content, structure, conventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose</strong></td>
<td>To show what student knows and can apply</td>
<td>To show student’s writing skill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Form</strong></td>
<td>Short answer and/or mathematical representation</td>
<td>Various authentic genres (forms) written for a specific audience and purpose as specified in the prompt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assesses</strong></td>
<td>Content</td>
<td>Writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Use On Demand Genres & Purposes to Assess Content Knowledge in Your Classroom!

Let’s blur these lines! Blend the concepts!

**SCIENCE, READING, SOCIAL STUDIES –**

**USE ON DEMAND GENRES & PURPOSES TO ASSESS CONTENT KNOWLEDGE IN YOUR CLASSROOM!**
A Sample Prompt

Situation: Several school systems in Kentucky are studying an alternative school calendar. This calendar would mean that students would not have the typical three-month summer vacation. Instead, the same number of vacation days would be divided more equally throughout the year.

Writing Task: Do you think this alternative calendar would benefit the students of Kentucky? Prepare a speech to the school board, stating whether you agree or disagree with the alternative school calendar. Be sure to include reasons why you feel this way and convince the board to accept your ideas.
WWF : On-Demand :: RUNRAP : Open Response

**Who** (audience)

**What** (purpose)

**Format** (genre)
Prewriting: *More details in Pp on website

- Use Candy Wrapper Model to structure ideas.
- The HOOK & INTRO is like grabbing the paper to unwrap the candy!
- The BODY is the yummy, sweet part of the piece!
- The CONCLUSION is like the empty wrapper that you are left with after everything is done!
RESOURCES

- On Demand Writing Resources Web Page: available on Abby’s Teacher Web Page
- KDE – On Demand Handbook (excerpts in your folder)
- Reading/Writing Teachers for ideas, clarification

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Make this writing assignment tailored to your curriculum
- You are using the on demand prompt format, genre and purpose selection to create an assessment tool for your classroom.
- Explore other writing tasks and use writing-to-learn regularly to achieve higher order thinking
- We will explore scoring and the rubrics for scoring after Christmas
Questions/Comments/Concerns

- If you have further questions, comments, concerns from today - jot them down on a note card at the table.

- We will research and respond in the blog posted on the resource web page.

- If you think of a question later – email us or post your ideas/questions/concerns on the site blog.