Grammar objectives by grade level for SMS writing activities

Students will be able to…

# Grade 2

1. Capitalization and spelling

* Capitalize:
* The first word in every sentence
* The letter I
* Days of weeks and months
* Holidays and special days
* Names of particular people
* Names of particular places or things
* Names referring to God and the Bible
* Initials
* Titles of respect
* First word and important words in titles of books, stories, poems, or songs

1. Punctuation

* Use the correct end mark for each of the follow sentences:
* Period for declarative
* Exclamation point for exclamatory
* Question mark for interrogative
* Place commas:
* Between day and year when writing a date
* Between city and state in an address
* In a direct address, when using a person’s name you are speaking to
* Use periods after:
* Initials
* Abbreviations
* Use apostrophe’s in contractions and with s in singular and plural possessive words

1. Parts of Speech

* Define nouns, verbs, and adjectives
* Form the plural of words
* Distinguish adjectives from a noun or verb
* Distinguish helping verbs from action verbs
* Recognize and define synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms
* Recognize:
* Adjectives
* Action verbs and other verbs
* Common and proper nouns

1. Sentence Structure

* Recognize a sentence as having a subject, verb, and complete thought
* Know three types of sentences: declarative, interrogative, and exclamatory
* Diagram subjects and verbs

1. Composition

* Avoid the use of double negatives
* Combine short sentences
* Produce a variety of writings:
* Stories
* Letters
* Write using a sequential order of beginning, middle, and end (also known as introduction, body, and conclusion)
* Identify the five parts to a friendly letter:
* Heading
* Greeting
* Body
* Closing
* Signature
* Write stories or descriptions using an assigned word, topic or picture
* Write paragraph/group of sentences using about a given subject or picture

# Grade 3

1. Capitalization and spelling

* Spell 90% of words accurately, while using a dictionary or asking the teacher in order to check and correct spelling
* Capitalize:
* The first word in every sentence
* The letter I
* Days of weeks and months
* Holidays and special days
* Names of particular people
* Names of particular places or things
* Names referring to God and the Bible
* Initials
* Titles of respect
* First word and important words in titles of books, stories, poems, or songs

1. Punctuation

* Use the correct end mark for each of the follow sentences:
* Period for declarative
* Exclamation point for exclamatory
* Question mark for interrogative
* Place commas:
* Between day and year when writing a date
* Between city and state in an address
* In a series
* After yes and no at the beginning of a sentence
* In a direct address, when using a person’s name you are speaking to
* After greeting and closing of a friendly letter
* Use periods after:
* Initials
* Abbreviations
* Use apostrophe’s in contractions and with s in singular and plural possessive words
* Use quotation marks before and after a direct quotation

1. Parts of Speech

* Define nouns, verbs, subjects, and adjectives
* Form the plural of words
* Distinguish adjectives from a noun or verb
* Distinguish helping verbs from action verbs
* Recognize and define synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms
* Recognize:
* Adjectives
* Action verbs and other verbs
* Common and proper nouns
* Over 30 irregular verbs and their correct usage

1. Sentence Structure

* Recognize a sentence as having a subject, verb, and complete thought
* Recognize the use of double negatives as incorrect grammar
* Know three types of sentences: declarative, interrogative, and exclamatory
* Diagram subjects and verbs

1. Composition

* Avoid the use of double negatives
* Combine short sentences
* Produce a variety of writings:
* Stories
* Letters
* Reports
* Descriptions
* Write using a chronological order of beginning, middle, and end (also known as introduction, body, and conclusion)
* Know the five parts to a friendly letter:
* Heading
* Greeting
* Body
* Closing
* Signature
* Write stories or descriptions using an assigned word, topic or picture
* Write paragraph/group of sentences using about a given subject or picture
* Write three book reports

1. Dictionary use

* Find the following items when using a dictionary:
* Guide words
* Spelling
* Pronunciation
* Meaning

# Grade 4

1. WRITING, GRAMMAR, AND USAGE
2. **Writing and Research**

\* Produce a variety of types of writing – including book reports, simple summaries, friendly/business letters, thank you notes, post cards, compare-contrast essays, personal narrative, tall tales, poetry, and figurative language exercises – with coherent structure and style

\* Organize information using graphic organizers

\* Familiar with the writing process: planning, drafting, revising, proofreading, publishing

\* Know how to gather information from different sources (such as encyclopedia, dictionary/thesaurus, books, magazines, observations) and write short reports presenting the information, with attention to the following:

-understanding the purpose and audience of the writing

-providing an introduction and conclusion (explain topic sentences)

-organizing material in coherent paragraphs (through spoon feeding)

-documenting sources in a simple bibliography (bibliography not a common term used)

\* Organize material in paragraphs and understand

-that each new paragraph is indented

\* Apply current grammar rules and quality penmanship to each assignment

B. **Grammar and Usage**

\* Understand what a complete sentence is, and

-identify subject and predicate in single-clause sentences

-distinguish complete sentences from fragments

-identify and correct run-on sentences

\* Identify subject and verb in a sentence and understand that they must agree.

\* Identify and use different sentence types: declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory.

\* Know the following parts of speech and how they are used: nouns, pronouns, verbs (actions, being, helping, phrases), adjectives (including articles), adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, interjections.

\* Know how to use the following punctuation:

-end punctuation: period, question mark, or exclamation point

-comma: between day and year, between city and state, in a series, after *yes* and *no*, inside quotation marks

-apostrophe: in contractions, in singular and plural possessive nouns

-quotation marks: in dialogue, for titles of poems, songs, short stories, magazine articles

\* Understand what synonyms and antonyms are and provide synonym or antonyms for given words.

\* Use underlining or italics for titles of books and ship names.

\* Review correct usage of problematic homophones and troublesome words:

-their, there, they're

-your, you're

-its, it's

-here, hear

-to, too, two

-between, among

-fewer, less

-accept, except, etc…

# Grade 5-6

1. Write using complete sentences: Have a subject, verb, and complete thought
2. Use correct subject/verb agreement when writing
3. Use good transitional words/phrases within sentences and between paragraphs
4. Develop a paragraph with a topic sentence and strong supporting details
5. Write using logical order

* Introduction, body, conclusion
* Chronological order

1. Write with a variety of sentence structures and descriptive word choices
2. Identify the four types of sentences: declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory
3. Revise personal work: fix fragments and run-on sentences, spelling errors, and punctuation errors
4. Produce a variety of thoughtful expository writings: summaries, book reports, descriptive essays, friendly letters, stories, poems
5. Research paper

* Stick to a main topic throughout the entire paper
* Organize material in logical order
* Read a section of information and reword important facts into own words
* Write an outline
* Write a bibliography

1. Become proficient at using a dictionary to find spelling/meanings of words
2. Become proficient at using an encyclopedia to find information on a particular entry
3. Understand the function of the following parts of speech and how to diagram them

* Nouns—common, proper, compound, plurals
* Verbs—action, linking, and helping verbs; verb phrases
* Pronouns—subjective, objective, possessive cases; compound, demonstrative, interrogative pronouns
* Adjectives
* Adverbs
* Prepositions
* Conjunctions
* Interjections

1. Understand the four complements (DO, IO, PN, PA) and how to diagram them
2. Apply correct punctuation: comma, colon, semicolon, hyphen
3. Use apostrophes correctly in writing to show possession
4. Apply correct capitalization rules
5. Apply underlining vs. quotation mark rules correctly
6. Punctuate dialogue correctly
7. Identify and apply synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms
8. Apply the correct troublesome word in writing: lie/lay, can/may, between/among, good/well

Use consistent verb tenses when writing (entire paper written in past tense or present tense rather than switching back and forth throughout)

# Grade 7-8 (Target: Mastered, introduced)

1. Using correct manuscript form:
   1. Abbreviations (Dr., Mrs. Mr., Jr., Sr., etc.)
   2. Writing numbers (when to use digits and when to use words)
2. Capitalize
   1. proper nouns and words formed from proper nouns
   2. Titles of persons
   3. Titles of works
   4. First word of every sentence (including quoted sentences)
   5. Interjections I and Oh!
   6. First word in every line of poetry
3. How to write a brief summary (This is key to middle school writing!)
4. Using proper punctuation
   1. Periods, question marks, exclamation point
   2. Using commas in proper places
   3. Properly using semicolons and colons
   4. Properly using italics and hyphens
   5. The usage of quotation marks
      1. Exact words
      2. Punctuation inside/outside quotation marks
      3. Titles
   6. Apostrophe usage
5. Research Paper and book reports
   1. Planning a paper
   2. Writing an appropriate topic sentence
   3. Proper bibliography cards
   4. Writing a complete outline
   5. Taking note cards
   6. Avoiding plagiarism
   7. Writing a proper research paper
   8. Setting up a, title page, pledge page, research paper and words cited page
6. Recognizing 4 main sentences: declarative, imperative, interrogative and exclamatory
7. Finding the subject and verb in the sentence and how to diagram them
8. Finding the complements (DO, IO, PN, PA) and how to diagram them.
9. Recognizing sentences and fragments and run-on’s
10. Recognizing the eight parts of speech and how to diagram them:
    1. Verb
       1. Telling the difference between action/linking/helping verbs
       2. Distinguishing verbs from verbals (participle)
       3. Recognizing the four principal parts of a verb: present, present participle, past and past participle and how to use them
       4. Using consistent verb tense throughout a writing assignment.
    2. Noun
       1. identifying nouns as appositives and direct address and diagraming
       2. Noun subject and verb agreement
    3. Pronoun
       1. Antecedent
       2. Types of pronouns (personal, interrogative, demonstrative, indefinite, compound, relative)
       3. Verb agreement with pronoun subjects
       4. Recognizing nominative case (subjects and PN), object case (DO, IO, OP) and possessive case pronouns
    4. Adjective
       1. Using participial phrases as adj
       2. Distinguishing adj from nouns and pronouns
       3. Distinguishing PN from PA (recognizing PA)
       4. Using dependent adj clauses
    5. Adverb
       1. Recognizing adverbs
       2. Adv phrases
       3. Using adv clauses
    6. Preposition
       1. Recognizing propositions
       2. Adv and adj prep phrases
    7. Conjunction
       1. Coordinating, correlative and subordinating conjunctions
    8. Interjection
       1. Recognizing interjections
11. Recognizing phrases (adj and adv)
12. writing a complete paragraph
    1. topic sentence
    2. summarizing sentence
    3. developing the idea
    4. unity
    5. coherence
    6. point of view
    7. details/arranging details
    8. exact nouns and verbs
13. sentence structure and how to diagram them
    1. clauses
       1. Independent
       2. Dependent
          1. Adj – relative pronouns
          2. Adv – subordinating conjunctions
    2. Simple sentence
    3. Compound sentence
    4. Complex sentence
    5. Compound-complex sentence
14. Writing style
    1. Avoiding choppy writing style
    2. Correcting monotone style
15. How to write a proper letter
    1. Friendly letters
    2. Business letter