

Layers of Writing (5-Part Series)



PRESENTED BY

Michelle Bence, PhD & Miriam Ramzy, PhD



SERIES SESSIONS

Date	Time
May 04, 2023	4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
May 11, 2023	4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
May 17, 2023	4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
June 01, 2023	4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
June 08, 2023	4:00 PM - 5:30 PM



LOCATION

Online

FEE

\$30.00

QUESTIONS?

Contact Us:

crc.info@aplc.ca

403-291-0967

REGISTER ONLINE

Visit our website to register:

crcpd.ab.ca

Learning Opportunity

Target Audience: K-3 teachers, educational assistants and administrators are encouraged to attend.

Join Michelle Bence and Dr. Miriam Ramzy for a 5-part series on the Layers of Writing. During each session, we will share the research pertaining to the layers, principles that can guide how we structure our programs, and offer suggestions for practice to help situate writing instruction in a purposeful environment. Ties to the ELAL Curriculum will be embedded throughout to help clarify the purpose of each element of writing development.

Session 1: Overview of the Layers of Writing (May 4)

In our first gathering, we will provide an overview of how writing develops, specifically targeted for Division 1 students. We will share a draft Layers of Writing framework, explaining how the layers build upon each other. We will discuss the different roles the layers play that facilitate and enhance *flow*.

Session 2: The Foundations of Developing Writers (May 11)

This second session will target what are often considered the foundations of writing: Handwriting and Spelling. We will unpack the role of these layers in supporting written production and output.

Session 3: Sentence Structures and Vocabulary (May 17)

Together, let's dig into how sentence structure develops from simple to complex helping writers better express their ideas. We will also look at our first category of vocabulary, descriptive language, and how we can use these types of words to build out more complex sentences.

Session 4: Text Structure and Vocabulary (June 1)

The role of text structure, and the academic vocabulary that we can embed within, will be explored in this session. Looking at Tier 2 academic vocabulary, and the most common text structures in school, we will share ways in which we can scaffold writing practice, for all students, including reluctant writers.

Session 5: Pulling it all Together through The Writing Process (June 8)

Finally, we will conclude the series by looking at how The Layers of Writing can come together in a purposeful writing environment, where all students experience support and success. Mirrored with reading development, when students have the opportunities to practice the layers in context, we support transfer within and across the disciplines.

"This series is a pilot of our draft version of our Layers of Writing program. As such, we encourage and look forward to your feedback on the usefulness of the Layers of Writing graphic, the applicability of the classroom strategies we will discuss, and any elements of writing that we have not captured in the series. We love learning from the wisdom and artistry teachers embed daily in their practice!"

Presenters

Michelle Bence, PhD

Michelle Bence is a dedicated educator with over 20 years of experience in K-12 classrooms and literacy education. She has worked extensively with several school boards across Western Canada as a literacy consultant, leading initiatives in literacy development, professional teacher learning, and the system-wide implementation of evidence-based literacy practices. Michelle recently completed her Ph.D. at the University of Calgary. Her research focuses on dialogic pedagogy and its role in fostering students' complex thinking, literacy identities, and language development in relation to literacy acquisition and engagement with texts.

Miriam Ramzy, PhD

Miriam Ramzy is a teacher and researcher based in Alberta. She has worked as a classroom teacher in both English and French Immersion settings, a literacy coach and facilitator, a school administrator, and Director of Student Learning. Currently, she works with school boards across Western Canada, supporting teachers, leaders, educational assistants, parents, and students from Jr. K - 12. Her work centers on literacy research and practice, with a deep commitment to supporting partners in education to create effective, responsive, and inclusive spaces where all students thrive. Miriam holds a PhD from the University of Calgary. Her research examined writing instruction, with a particular focus on the transcription process. She continues to contribute to professional learning and educational research with a passion for bridging theory and classroom practice.

Registration Notes

This series will be recorded.

All session times are mountain time.



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