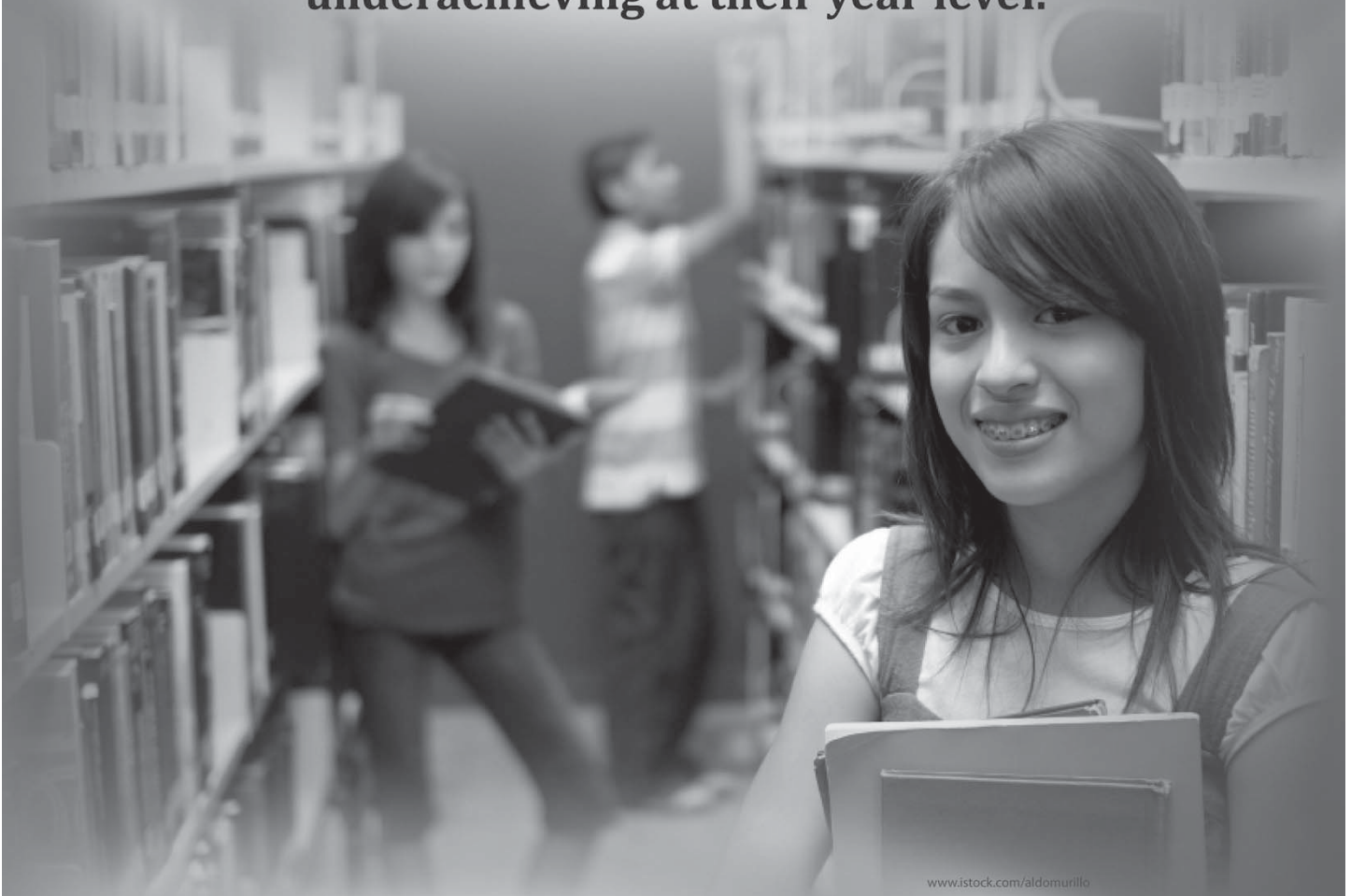


Striving To Improve



Writing Book 2

For students aged 12 - 15 years who are
underachieving at their year level.



www.istock.com/aldomurillo



Edited by Lindsay Marsh

Teachers' Notes

Writing Book 2 is part of the *Striving To Improve* series which is targeted at children aged between 11 and 15 years who are struggling to meet the expected requirements specified by the curriculum for their age group.

The children who you teach may be struggling with their school work because they have been diagnosed with learning difficulties such as ADHD or dyslexia. They may be struggling because of social factors which have resulted in them missing a lot of school. Whatever the reason, this book will help students begin to write more clearly, accurately and confidently.

Activities in this book link to the curriculum for Years 5 and 6, so children feel that what is being asked of them is actually achievable. To make the tasks more manageable, they have been broken down into small parts which gives each student the opportunity to process one idea at a time. Time limits have been either abandoned or made flexible for students.

With this book you can prevent those students who have been left behind from regressing any further, and help them to feel that they too can be successful at school.

Sample

* Special Homonyms

practice/practise

licence/license

affect/effect



These three pairs of homonyms cause difficulty for many people. Taking the time to learn the difference between each pair will help you to improve your spelling.

*** TASK A** Firstly, use your dictionary to help you to complete the definitions below.

- A.** Practi__e is something that you do to improve your skills, whilst a practi__e is a habit that you might have. (Remember that practise is a verb, and practice is a noun.)
- B.** A licen__e is something that you are given which allows you to do a certain thing, whilst to licen__e is to give permission. (License is a verb and licence is a noun.)
- C.** To __ffect means to influence something, whilst an __ffect is the result of something or to effect means to bring about.

*** TASK B** Now, practise using the special homonyms to complete the sentences below. You may need to add a suffix (such as *ing*) to make the words fit.

1. practice/practise

- i) It is good to the violin every day.
- ii) She improved her tennis by often.
- iii) Dr Brown's is in Smith Street.
- iv) He makes a of getting up early.

2. licence/license

- i) Do you have your driver's yet?
- ii) The ranger was asked to the dog.
- iii) The teacher gave them to choose their own topics.
- iv) She works for the traffic division.

3. affect/effect

- i) Her sickness is her results in dancing.
- ii) Your attendance will your final grade.
- iii) My attendance had a good on my final grade.
- iv) Your argument really isn't my decision.

* Apostrophes – Possession 1

The *apostrophe* (') is used to show that something belongs to someone or something.

- When the owner of something is singular (i.e: there is one owner) the apostrophe comes before the s ('s). Example: The cat's biscuits.
- If there is more than one owner, the apostrophe comes after the s (s'). Example: Those cats' biscuits.

*** TASK A** Add an 's to each word/phrase below and write something that could belong to each owner. Example: Susan's shoes.

Susan Mr Brown Peter the cat my dog the old horse

*** TASK B** Complete the sentences. Place one of the bracketed words in each space below. Then, write three sentences of your own using the words in brackets that have not already been used.

(child's / dog's / tree's / car's / wind's / Dad's / bird's / plant's / tiger's)

a. The _____ hat was blown down the street.

b. After I came home from school, I listened to _____ radio.

c. At the zoo, the _____ cub was born during the night.

*** TASK C** Complete the sentences. Include one word that has an 's to show possession.

Example: After the accident the **man's** car was found by the lake.

After _____

At night the _____

Yesterday _____

As soon as _____

* Contractions 1

When two words are shortened into one, it is known as a contraction. Contractions contain apostrophes to show where letters have been left out.

*E.g. **did not** can be shortened to **didn't**. The apostrophe shows where the **o** from not is missing.*

★ Contractions 1

*** TASK A** Write each contraction as two words.

I'm: _____	I'll: _____	he's: _____
you're: _____	you'll: _____	she's: _____
we're: _____	we'll: _____	he'll: _____
I've: _____	I'd: _____	she'll: _____
you've: _____	you'd: _____	he'd: _____
we've: _____	we'd: _____	she'd: _____

★ Contractions 2

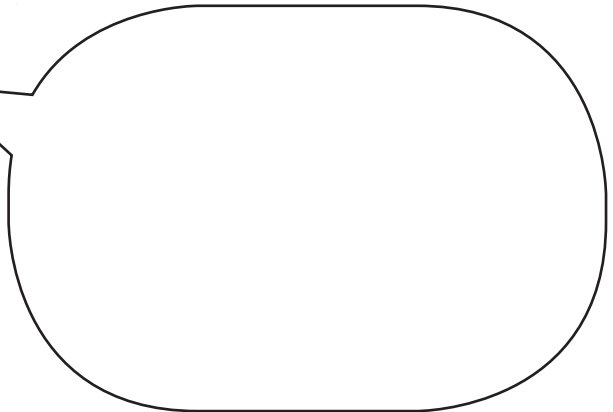
*** TASK B** Write the contractions for the words below.

they are: _____	it will: _____	have not: _____
they have: _____	it had: _____	had not: _____
they will: _____	is not: _____	could not: _____
are not: _____	should not: _____	does not: _____
it is: _____	has not: _____	I am: _____

* TASK C

The giant is not too good at using apostrophes to create contractions. Rewrite his speech in the speech bubble using contractions.

Im not going to let you escape. If you dont think Im serious, Ill prove it to you!



* Speech Marks 3

★ Rewrite

* TASK A

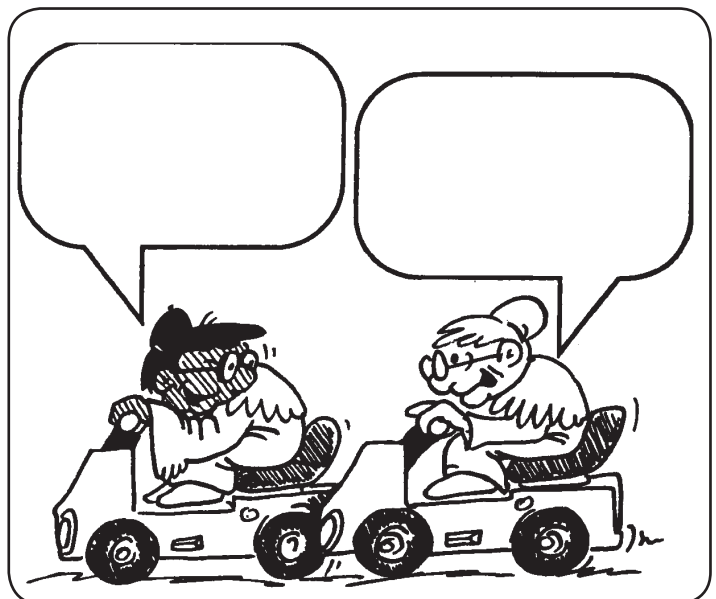
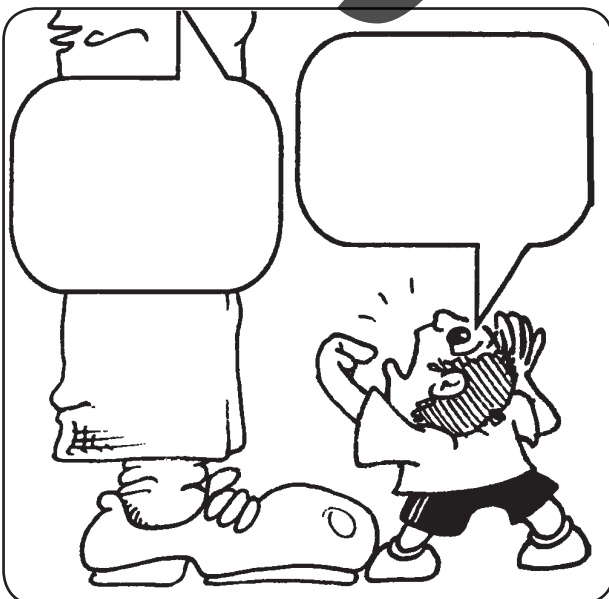
Rewrite the passage below using correct punctuation.
Remember to start a new line when somebody new is speaking.

billy ran quickly from the room wait shouted freddy ill come with you where are you going anyway i just remembered that ive left mr smiths hose on called back billy ill get killed if he finds out five minutes later Billy burst through the smiths garden gate and slosed along the path towards the running tap billy im disappointed in you came mr smiths voice from behind him ive just got home from work and what do i find

Handwriting practice lines for the rewritten passage.

* TASK B

Write the conversations that the people in the cartoons are having.
Include speech marks.



* The Past Tense

*** TASK A** Look at the words in bold. Find the past tense of each word. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

swam
made
left
sold
kept
sang

keep
sing
sell
swim
make
leave



kept

Use your answers above to complete the sentences below.

- The boy _____ jumping.
- All the frogs _____ in the pond.
- I _____ well at the school concert.
- I _____ my jacket on eBay for \$10.



*** TASK B** Look at the words in bold. Find the past tense of each word. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

spent
ran
ate
cried
slept
knew

run
cry
sleep
know
eat
spend



Use your answers above to complete the sentences below.

- The boy _____ in his pyjamas.
- I _____ all of my money on lollies.
- I _____ around the track quickly.
- I _____ all of my dinner.



* Complex Sentences 3

* TASK A

Some complex sentences make a concession.

Example: She went to work even though she wasn't feeling well.

What is the 1st idea? _____

What is the 2nd idea? _____

What is the conjunction? _____

Write three complex sentences which make a concession.

Sentence 1: _____

Sentence 2: _____

Sentence 3: _____

* TASK B

Some complex sentences link two ideas in terms of time.

Example: I cleaned while she polished.

What is the 1st idea? _____

What is the 2nd idea? _____

What is the conjunction? _____

Write three complex sentences which link two ideas in terms of time.

Sentence 1: _____

Sentence 2: _____

Sentence 3: _____

* TASK C

In your own words explain to someone what a complex sentence is.
