

Medieval History-Based Writing Lessons

Implementing the Structure and Style® Writing Method

Student Book

Lori Verstegen

Illustrated by Travis Wells

Fifth Edition © January 2019
Institute for Excellence in Writing, L.L.C.

Also by Lori Verstegen

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These lessons are not intended as a history curriculum replacement, but rather their purpose is to broaden subject knowledge while students learn to write.

Contents

Introduction	5
Scope and Sequence	8
Adapting the Schedule and Lessons	10
Note Making and Outlines (IEW Unit 1)	
Lesson 1 The Middle Ages	11
Writing from Notes (IEW Unit 2)	
Lesson 2 Anglo-Saxons	17
Lesson 3 Monasteries	27
Lesson 4 Justinian the Great	35
Retelling Narrative Stories (IEW Unit 3)	
Lesson 5 Beowulf	45
Lesson 6 The Archbishop of Canterbury	53
Lesson 7 Mohammed	61
Lesson 8 The Sword in the Stone	71
Summarizing a Reference (IEW Unit 4)	
Lesson 9 Charlemagne	79
Lesson 10 Vikings	87
Lesson 11 Alfred the Great	97
Lesson 12 The Battle of Hastings	105
Writing from Pictures (IEW Unit 5)	
Lesson 13 The Samurai and the Dragon	117
Lesson 14 Llama Saves the Day	123
Lesson 15 The Magic Lamp	129
Summarizing Multiple References (IEW Unit 6)	
Lesson 16 Medieval Cathedrals	135
Lesson 17 Knights, Part 1	143
Lesson 18 Knights, Part 2	155
Lesson 19 King Richard	163

Inventive Writing (IEW Unit 7)

Lesson 20	Favorite Amusements, Part 1	171
Lesson 21	Favorite Amusements, Part 2	179
Lesson 22	Chivalry, Part 1	187
Lesson 23	Chivalry, Part 2	195
Lesson 24	Descriptive Time Travel Diary	201

Formal Essay Models (IEW Unit 8)

Lesson 25	Knights, Part 3	209
Lesson 26	The Renaissance, Part 1	217
Lesson 27	The Renaissance, Part 2	227

Formal Critique and Response to Literature (IEW Unit 9)

Lesson 28	“Genghis Khan and His Hawk,” Part 1	233
Lesson 29	“Genghis Khan and His Hawk,” Part 2	239
Lesson 30	Character Analysis: “Seven in One Blow”	245

Just for Fun

Bonus	Vocabulary Story	253
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Appendices

I.	Modified MLA Format	261
II.	Magnum Opus Notebook and Keepsake	263
III.	Critique Thesaurus	265
IV.	Adding Literature	267
V.	Vocabulary Chart and Quizzes (Cards in Student Book only)	273

Introduction

The lessons in this book teach Structure and Style in writing. As they move through medieval history themes, they incrementally introduce and review most of the models of structure and elements of style found in the Institute for Excellence in Writing's *Teaching Writing: Structure and Style*.

Student Book Contents

- **Scope and Sequence Chart** (pages 8–9)
- **The Lesson Pages**
This is the majority of the text. It contains the instructions, source texts, worksheets, and checklists you will need for each lesson.
- **Appendix I: Modified MLA Format**
- **Appendix II: Magnum Opus Notebook and Keepsake**
This appendix explains the Magnum Opus Notebook and includes a checklist.
- **Appendix III: Critique Thesaurus**
The Critique Thesaurus provides a list of literary terms and their synonyms that are often used when critiquing various forms of literature. This page will help you include specific words to make your critique and literature analysis essay sound sophisticated.
- **Appendix IV: Adding Literature**
This appendix suggests various novels set in the Middle Ages to be read or listened to alongside the writing lessons. It also includes templates of literature-response pages if teachers would like to assign such pages for students who will be adding the literature. These great stories will enhance the students' understanding of medieval times, provide background for the compositions they will write for some of the lessons, and model skillful use of various elements of structure and style.
- **Appendix V: Vocabulary Chart and Quizzes** (Cards in Student Book only)
The vocabulary words are an important part of these lessons. You will be instructed to cut out one set of cards for some of the lessons. You should try to include some of these words in each composition you write. You will also be quizzed over the words periodically. The goal is that these great words will become part of your natural writing vocabulary.

Checklists

Each lesson includes a checklist that details all the requirements of the assignment for you and your teacher. You (students) should check off each element when you are sure it is included in your paper. With each assignment, turn in the checklist to be used by the teacher for grading.

The last item of the checklist is for the vocabulary words that you are encouraged to try to use in each composition that you write. Doing so will help you master these quality words. Your teacher will decide how to reward you for using vocabulary words. If point values are assigned, the new total points possible will be written on the custom total line.

Reproducible checklists are available. View the blue page for download information.

Teacher's Manual

The Teacher's Manual includes all of the Student Book contents (except the vocabulary cards) with added instructions for teachers, including sample key word outlines and style practice ideas, answers to questions, review games, answers to vocabulary quizzes, and ideas for motivating students. Teachers may teach directly from this manual without the need of their own copy of the Student Book.

The Magnum Opus Notebook and Keepsake

If you want to save your work in a special way, make any changes to your final draft suggested by your teacher and remove the stylistic technique markings. Feel free to create illustrations for your work and then place this new draft in a binder in clear sheet protectors with the original IEW stylistic labeled draft hidden behind it.

At the end of the year, you will have a collection of a variety of types of compositions that move through major themes in medieval history. See Appendix II for more details about the Magnum Opus Notebook.

Suggested Weekly Schedule

In general, lessons are designed to be taught weekly and to be completed as follows.

Days 1 and 2 require teacher instruction. If your class meets only once per week, Days 1 and 2 should be combined and taught on the day of class.

Day 1

1. Review concepts from previous lessons using review activities in the Teacher's Manual.
2. Together, teacher and students learn or review the structure for the new composition.
3. Follow the lesson instructions to read the source text, make a key word outline, and tell back the meaning of each line of notes.
4. Learn the vocabulary words for the current lesson.

Day 2

1. Review the key word outline from Day 1. If a note is unclear, check the source text and add what you need in order to understand it.
2. If a new element of style is introduced, read about it and complete the practice exercise for it. Use the Structure and Style Practice pages to discuss ideas for including these elements.
3. After you are sure you understand your notes, begin to write a paragraph using only the outline and the structure and style practice ideas to guide you. Try not to look back at the source text while you are writing. Write in your own words. Follow the checklist and indicate the required elements as instructed.

Days 3 and 4 may be completed by students more independently, but parents or teachers should be available to help as necessary and to edit.

Day 3

1. Finish writing your composition. Check each item on the checklist when you are sure you have completed it. Let an editor proofread.
2. Review all vocabulary words learned thus far.

Day 4

1. Write or type a final draft by making any corrections your editor asked you to make. Check off each item on the checklist when you have included and labeled it.
2. Let an editor proofread again. He or she should check that all elements of structure and style are included and labeled as instructed on the checklist. Paperclip the checklist to your final draft to be turned in.
3. If work from a previous lesson has been returned with corrections to be made, revise this work with the help of a parent. Remove the stylistic technique markings, and if you would like to, add a picture. The final draft will be placed in the Magnum Opus Notebook (see page 6) with the original IEW stylistic labeled draft behind it in the same sheet protector. *There is a Magnum Opus checklist on page 264.*

Scope and Sequence

Lesson	Subject and Structure	Style (First Introduced)	Vocabulary	Literature Suggestions
Unit 1 1	The Middle Ages	introduction to Structure and Style	fetid, massive, dilapidated, intrepid	
Unit 2 2	Anglo-Saxons	-ly adverb	capably, tenaciously, brazenly, benevolently	<i>The Story of King Arthur and His Knights</i> retold by Tania Zamorsky or <i>King Arthur: Tales from the Round Table</i> by Andrew Lang
3	Monasteries		reverently, astutely, earnestly, pursue	
4	Justinian the Great title rule	who/which clause	resolutely, uniformly, nobly, opulently	
Unit 3 5	Beowulf		fatally, hastily, spew, brandish	
6	The Archbishop of Canterbury	strong verb banned words: <i>go/went, say/said</i>	extol, flee, rebuke, intrigue	<i>One Thousand and One Arabian Nights</i> by Geraldine McCaughrean
7	Mohammed	because clause	proclaim, retreat, embellish, deduce	
8	The Sword in the Stone		disclose, contritely, scowl, dislodge	
Unit 4 9	Charlemagne topic and clincher sentences		reform, restrain, apprehend, renowned	
10	Vikings	quality adjective banned words: <i>good/bad, big/little</i>	wanton, merciless, imminent, unrivaled	<i>The King's Shadow</i> by Elizabeth Alder or <i>Wulf the Saxon</i> by G.A. Henty
11	Alfred the Great	www.asia clause	prominent, myriad, virtuous, bestow	
12	The Battle of Hastings	#2 prepositional opener	endure, smug, proficient, treacherous	
Unit 5 13	The Samurai and the Dragon		relish, scramble, bewildered, anguish	
14	Llama Saves the Day		din, cower, brim, frantically	<i>Robin Hood</i> by J. Walker McSpadden or other children's version
15	The Magic Lamp		gravely, fatigued, insolent, scorn	

Lesson	Subject and Structure	Style (First Introduced)	Vocabulary	Literature Suggestions
Unit 6 16	Medieval Cathedrals fused outlines	#3 -ly adverb opener	grandiose, serene, toil, contrive	Elementary: <i>The Door in the Wall</i> by Marguerite de Angeli Junior and Senior High: <i>Winning His Spurs: A Tale of the Crusades</i> by G.A. Henty
17	Knights, Part 1	#6 vss	primarily, elite, allegiance, impeccable	
18	Knights, Part 2 bibliography		agile, devoted, feeble, clad	
19	King Richard			
Unit 7 20	Favorite Amusements, Part 1 body paragraphs	#5 clausal opener <i>www.asia.b</i> clause		Elementary: <i>Adam of the Road</i> by Elizabeth Janet Gray Junior and Senior High: <i>The Kite Rider</i> by Geraldine McCaughrean
21	Favorite Amusements, Part 2 introduction and conclusion			
22	Chivalry, Part 1 body paragraphs		credible, foremost, stymie, indolent	
23	Chivalry, Part 2 introduction and conclusion			
24	Descriptive Time Travel Diary	#1 subject opener #4 -ing opener		<i>Marco Polo</i> by Demi
Unit 8 25	Knights, Part 3 introduction and conclusion			<i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i> by Avi
26	The Renaissance, Part 1			
27	The Renaissance, Part 2			
Unit 9 28	“Genghis Khan and His Hawk,” Part 1		analyze, aghast, tragic, rash	
29	“Genghis Khan and His Hawk,” Part 2			
30	Character Analysis “Seven in One Blow”			
Bonus	Vocabulary Story		review all	

Adapting the Schedule

Groups who follow a schedule with fewer than thirty weeks will have to omit some lessons. Because there are several lessons for each of the nine IEW units, this is not a problem. Teach lessons that introduce new concepts and omit some of those that do not.

Simplified Source Texts

If students are younger or have special needs, teachers may choose to download the optional *Medieval History-Based Writing Lessons Simplified Source Texts* e-book (see blue page). This e-book provides a simplified version of the same source texts used in the basic lessons in the Student Book. When using these simplified source texts, IEW students should follow the directions for each lesson in the Student Book but replace the Student Book source text with the simplified version. Teachers should remember IEW's EZ + 1 rule. Every item on a student's checklist should be easy, plus one new item to challenge him or her.

Advanced Additions

Experienced IEW students who would benefit from additional challenges may be encouraged to download and use the optional *Medieval History-Based Writing Lessons Advanced Additions* e-book (see blue page). This e-book adds more advanced elements of Structure or Style to the basic lessons and checklists in the Student Book. Experienced IEW students should follow the directions for each lesson in the Student Book first, then add the suggested challenges *only if they are ready for them*. Teachers should remember IEW's EZ + 1 rule. Every item on a student's checklist should be easy, plus one new item to challenge him or her.

UNIT 1: NOTE MAKING AND OUTLINES

Lesson 1: The Middle Ages**Goals**

- to be introduced to the Unit 1 Note Making and Outlines structural model
- to create a key word outline (KWO)
- to retell the content of a source text using just your outline
- to correctly use new vocabulary words: *fetid*, *massive*, *dilapidated*, *intrepid*

Assignment Schedule

Note: Classes that meet only one day per week should complete Days 1 and 2 on class day.

Day 1

1. Read the Introduction to Structure and Style on pages 12–13.
2. Read “The Middle Ages” on page 14. Then read it again. As you do, choose no more than three key words from each sentence that will best help you remember the meaning of the sentence. Write the words on the blank outline on page 15.

Note: You may use symbols, numbers, and abbreviations freely. They do not count as words. However, be sure you can remember what they mean.

3. Cover the source text and tell the meaning of each line of notes *in your own words*.
4. Learn the vocabulary words for Lesson 1: *fetid*, *massive*, *dilapidated*, *intrepid*. Store cards in a pencil pouch where you can easily retrieve them when writing or studying for a quiz.

Day 2

1. Reread the paragraph on page 14; then, turn the page so you cannot see it. Using only your key word notes on page 15, try to tell back the information in complete sentences *in your own words*. You should not memorize the source text word for word. Rather, you should let the key words remind you of the key ideas; then, state the ideas in your own words. If a note is unclear, check the source text and fix your note.

Day 3

1. Try to add a vocabulary word to the outline of the Middle Ages paragraph.

Day 4

1. Prepare to give an oral report from your key word outline. Practice telling back the information one line at a time. Look at a line; then, look up and talk about it. Then look down at the next line, look up, and talk about it. Continue through the outline this way. Practice until the paragraph is smooth.

It is important to realize that you are not trying to memorize the exact words of the source text. You are trying to remember the ideas and communicate those ideas in your own words.

2. Review the vocabulary words.
3. If you will be reading the suggested literature, obtain a children's version of the tales of King Arthur for Lessons 2–5. Two are suggested in Appendix IV.

In this book you will learn many ways to make your writing more exciting and more enjoyable to read. You will learn to write with *structure* and with *style*.

Introduction to Structure and Style

Structure

What is *structure*? The dictionary defines structure as “the arrangement of and relations between the parts or elements of something complex.”

What has structure? Think of a castle. What had to happen before the castle was built? Someone had to draw out the plans for the builders to follow. The builders had to follow the plans so that each part was in its proper place. The royal family certainly would not have wanted the moat placed around their thrones or a torture chamber in their bedroom. Each part had to be placed in its own special spot, and each step had to be completed in its proper order, giving the castle its proper structure.

Writing a paper, in some ways, is similar to building a castle. A paper contains many facts and ideas. If we were just to begin writing without planning, our facts and ideas would probably not be arranged in the most logical way. Our composition would not be structured well and would not communicate our thoughts effectively. So, in this course you will “draw plans” for everything before you write. Your “plans” will be outlines, and they will follow a particular model of structure for each type of composition.

Style

What comes to your mind when you hear the word *style*? Many people think of clothes. Clothes come in a variety of styles. A maiden would dress differently to go to a royal ball than she would to tend her garden. That is because formal events require a formal style of clothing, whereas casual settings do not.

There are also different styles of language. Below are two sentences that communicate the same information in different styles. Which do you like better? Why?

He fell!

The young knight plummeted headlong from his horse, dashing his hopes of winning the fair princess.

You probably like the second sentence better because it is more descriptive. Indeed, if it were part of a written story, the second would most likely be better. However, what if you were at the joust with your friend and the knight was your brother? Which of the above sentences would you be more likely to exclaim? *He fell!* would be more appropriate in this case. The second would sound silly. Why the difference?

When you are speaking to people, they are there with you, experiencing the same scene and event as you are. You do not need to fill in the details. When you write, however, you must realize that the readers are not with you and cannot see, hear, or feel what is in your mind. You must fill in the details and paint vivid pictures with your words. You must help them see, hear, feel, and experience the scene you are writing about as the second sentence does. IEW elements of style will help you do this.

Key Word Outlines

Before you begin to write, you will practice the first step of learning *structure* in writing: key word outlining.

Structure is how you organize the things you write. Key word outlining will help you gather information and help you organize that information in your compositions.

When you outline, you will want to use or create some symbols or abbreviations to help you outline quickly. Below are a few symbols that we could use today. What do you think each means?



Practice key word outlining by following the assignment instructions under Day 1 of the Assignment Schedule.

Source Text

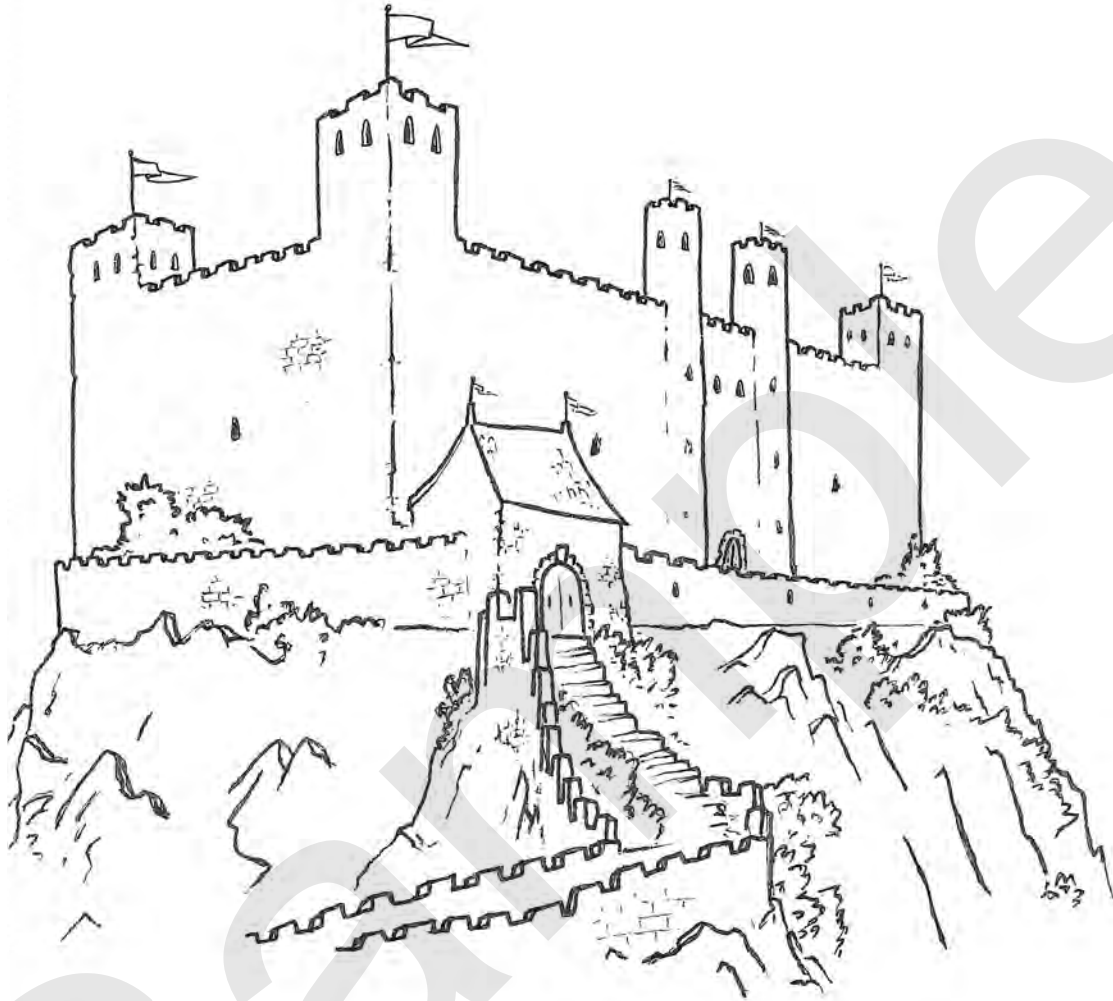
The Middle Ages

The Middle Ages began with the crumbling of the great Western Roman Empire in the fifth century. At that time several tribes of barbarians* from the North invaded Europe. Much of Roman culture and knowledge was lost. Over time, though, the Roman Catholic Church increased in power. Huge majestic cathedrals were built, and monasteries were established. Kings and nobles also rose to power in different territories. They constructed massive castles and hired knights to protect their land. However, most people were poor peasants who worked from sunup to sundown farming for the few wealthy noblemen. The Middle Ages lasted for one thousand years and ended with a time called the Renaissance.

***Note:** Romans called anyone who was not Roman a barbarian. The people north of the Roman Empire were also known as Germanic tribes. Many lived in what is now Germany and Scandinavia. They were very different from the Romans. They had light hair and eyes, and they worshiped different gods. They were warriors who valued bravery above all else.

Key Word Outline

- I. _____
- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____



UNIT 8: FORMAL ESSAY MODELS

Lesson 27: The Renaissance, Part 2**Goals**

- to practice the Unit 8 structural model
- to create key word outlines from multiple sources
- to create a fused outline
- to complete a 5-paragraph research essay with a bibliography

Assignment Schedule

Note: Classes that meet weekly should complete Days 1 and 2 in class.

Day 1

1. With a teacher read and complete the Review section.
2. From two or three of your sources, create source outlines for Topic C for your Renaissance essay, as you did in Lesson 26 for Topics A and B. Read the Topic C Instructions on page 228 and use the paper you prepared in Lesson 26.
3. Fuse those notes into a fused outline on page 228.

Note: Your teacher will decide how much of the above you must do in class and how much to complete at home. You should do enough to understand the main ideas of Topic C so that you can state Topic C in your introduction and conclusion.

Day 2

1. With the help of your teacher, create key word outlines and write a conclusion and an introduction for your research essay (page 229).
2. See Lesson 18, pages 157–158, to review how to create a bibliography page.

Day 3

1. Complete your 5-paragraph essay about a prominent person of the Renaissance, including a bibliography. Let an editor proofread.

Day 4

1. Write or type a final draft of your essay, making the corrections your editor asked you to make. Check off each item on the checklists (pp. 230–231) that you have completed and indicated as instructed.
2. Let an editor proofread again. He or she should check that all elements of structure and style are included and labeled as instructed on the checklists. Paperclip both checklists (pp. 230–231) to your final draft to be turned in.
3. If you are making a Magnum Opus Notebook, revise your knights research essay from Lesson 25. (See Appendix II.)

Review

Read the topic and clincher sentences of each of the two body paragraphs you wrote for Lesson 26. Did you remember to highlight or bold two or three key words that are repeated or reflected?

Structure

Topic C Instructions

First, on the paper you prepared in Lesson 26, make source outlines from two or three of your sources for Topic C of your essay. Then, choose some of the notes in your outlines to put in the fused outline below. Put them in an order that makes sense. Remember to begin with key words that will help you write a topic sentence.

Fused Outline C

Choose facts from the key word outlines you made from all sources for Topic C.

IV. Topic C: _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

Clincher

V. Key Word Outline for Conclusion

Topic A _____

Topic B _____

Topic C _____

Most significant _____

Why? _____

I. Key Word Outline for Introduction

Attention getter _____

Background _____

Topic A _____

Topic B _____

Topic C _____

Background Help: The paragraphs on page 218, which give background information about the Renaissance in general, might have facts that you could include in the background section of your introduction.

Unit 8 Composition Checklist

Formal
Essay
Models

Lessons 26–27 : The Renaissance, Part 1 body paragraphs

Name: _____


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STRUCTURE

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MLA format (see Appendix I) | _____ | 1 pt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> topic-clincher sentences repeat or reflect 2–3 key words (highlight or bold) | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> checklist on top, final draft, rough draft, key word outline | _____ | 2 pts |

STYLE (one of each in each paragraph)

- | | | |
|---|-------------|-------|
| ¶12 ¶13 ¶14 Dress-Ups (underline) | (1 pt each) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> -ly adverb | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>who/which</i> clause | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> strong verb | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> quality adjective | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>www.asia.b</i> clause | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> banned words: go/went, say/said, good/bad, big/little (-1 for each use) | _____ | pts |

- | | | |
|--|-------------|-------|
| ¶12 ¶13 ¶14 Sentence Openers (number; one of each as possible) | (1 pt each) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> [1] subject | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> [2] prepositional | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> [3] -ly adverb | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> [4] -ing | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> [5] clausal - <i>www.asia.b</i> | _____ | 3 pts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> [6] vss | _____ | 3 pts |

MECHANICS

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> spelling, grammar, and punctuation | _____ | 6 pts |
|---|-------|-------|

VOCABULARY

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> vocabulary words - label (<i>voc</i>) in left margin or after sentence | | |
|---|--|--|

Total: _____ 45 pts

Custom Total: _____ pts

Unit 8 Composition Checklist

Formal
Essay
Models

Lesson 27 : The Renaissance, Part 2 introduction and conclusion

Name: _____


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STRUCTURE
 MLA format (see Appendix I) _____ 1 pt

 title centered _____ 1 pt
Introduction
 attention getter background topics stated (highlight or bold) _____ 8 pts

 insert body paragraphs _____ 3 pts
Conclusion
 restate topics (highlight or bold) most significant/why _____ 8 pts

 final sentence repeats 1–3 key words for the title

 checklist on top, final draft, rough draft, key word outline _____ 3 pts
STYLE (one of each in each paragraph)
¶1 ¶15 Dress-Ups (underline) (1 pt each)

 -ly adverb _____ 2 pts

 who/which clause _____ 2 pts

 strong verb _____ 2 pts

 quality adjective _____ 2 pts

 www.asia.b clause _____ 2 pts

 banned words: *go/went, say/said, good/bad, big/little* (-1 for each use) _____ pts

¶1 ¶15 Sentence Openers (number; one of each as possible)

 [1] subject _____ 2 pts

 [2] prepositional _____ 2 pts

 [3] -ly adverb _____ 2 pts

 [4] -ing _____ 2 pts

 [5] clausal - *www.asia.b* _____ 2 pts

 [6] vss _____ 2 pts
MECHANICS
 spelling, grammar, and punctuation _____ 4 pts
VOCABULARY
 vocabulary words - label (*voc*) in left margin or after sentence

Total: _____ 50 pts

Custom Total: _____ pts