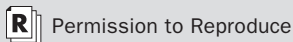


Language Arts Warm-Ups

Proofreading



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ISBN 1-58804-511-0

This product is available through PCI Education at 1-800-594-4263

Language Arts Warm-Ups

INTRODUCTION

Language Arts Warm-Ups: Proofreading is designed to provide quick practice and review opportunities for students with learning differences. The clear and simple explanations and practice activities are written at a low reading level, making them appropriate for students in upper elementary school, middle school, and high school.

Each reproducible page covers only one topic in a concise manner so that students who are already struggling will not be overwhelmed. For each topic introduced, an explanation sheet and practice activities are provided. When completing an activity, students will identify misuses of the rule learned and then correct those mistakes. Before students begin the activities, review the preferred proofreading marks to be used in your class.

It is suggested that students keep all their completed activities in a folder labeled “Proofreading Warm-Ups.” This will allow students to easily refer to the activities when working on future warm-ups and when completing other supplemental activities. Although these warm-ups are designed to supplement your existing curriculum, they can also stand alone because a clear explanation of each topic is provided.

Language Arts Warm-Ups

Language Arts Warm-Ups: Proofreading is a comprehensive compilation of 180 proofreading activities, one for each day of the school year. The warm-ups are divided into 21 sections: Capitalization, End Punctuation, End Punctuation and Dialogue, Commas, Colons and Semicolons, Quotation Marks, Friendly Letters, Formal Letters, Addressing Envelopes, Complete Sentences, Commonly Confused Words, Double Negatives, Subject-Verb Agreement, Adjectives and Adverbs, Comparative and Superlative Adjectives, Comparative and Superlative Adverbs, Verb Tenses, Past Tense Verbs, Plural Nouns, Possessive Nouns vs. Plural Nouns, and Spelling Words With Silent Letters.

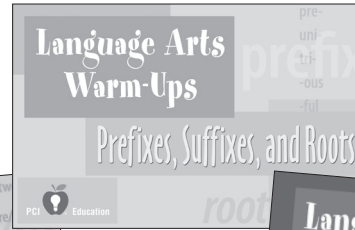
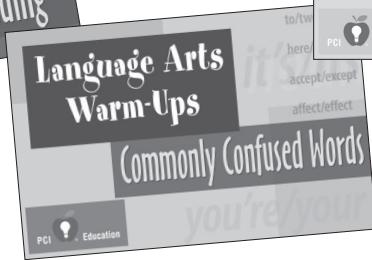
Daily practice in proofreading helps students improve their writing skills.

Language Arts Warm-Ups: Proofreading provides repeated daily practice in this area. These warm-ups can be used at any time for a variety of purposes. Use them as warm-ups, mini-lessons, review activities, “tickets out” to allow students to leave the classroom, or quick homework assignments. For your convenience, an answer key is provided for all of the warm-up activities.

Language Arts Warm-Ups

THE LANGUAGE ARTS WARM-UPS SERIES

There are currently four books in the *Language Arts Warm-Ups* series. Each book includes 180 pages of practice activities.



Proofreading

Language Arts Warm-Ups

TWO SECTIONS

This book is divided into two sections. The first section contains 180 activities about proofreading. The second section is the answer key, which includes solutions for all of the activities. For some pages, the answer key will say, “Answers will vary.”

**Language Arts
Warm-Ups**

Capitalization

Directions: Review the rules for **capitalization**. Find and correct the mistakes below.

jellyfish are invertebrates. that means they have no backbone. one type of jellyfish is the sea wasp. it lives off the coast of australia.

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Proofreading 2

**Language Arts
Warm-Ups**

Answer Key

Page 1
Have you ever seen a corn maze? It's a large maze carved into a cornfield. When you walk into it, you must try to get out without getting lost. Corn mazes are popular attractions in September and October. They are a lot of fun!

Page 2
Jellyfish are invertebrates. That means they have no backbone. One type of jellyfish is the sea wasp. It lives off the coast of Australia.

Page 3
Flies are interesting insects because they have two wings. Most other insects have four wings. Flies are not well liked because they annoy people and can spread germs. My friend Joe likes to catch flies with his bare hands.

Page 4
Do you know the difference between a butterfly and a moth? Butterflies have thin bodies and fly during the day. Moths have thicker bodies and mainly fly at dusk. Butterflies rest with their wings closed. Moths rest with their wings open.

Page 5
Not all woodwind instruments are made of wood. Many of them, like the saxophone, are made of metal. They all need wind to make a sound. My band director, Mr. Merla, taught me these facts. My friend Raymond and I play the clarinet.

Page 6
Static electricity is created when electrons are moved from one place to another. You can see static electricity when you rub a balloon on your hair. This creates a charge and an electric field. When I do that, my mom says, "Whoa! It's going to pop!"

Page 7
The mechanical calculator was invented by a scientist named Blaise Pascal in 1642. He was only 19 at the time. This was the first machine of its kind. The first computer was not built until 1943 in England.

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Proofreading 181

Language Arts Warm-Ups

punctuation

capitalization

sentence

semicolon

comma
period
spelling

OBJECTIVES

After students complete the activities in *Language Arts Warm-Ups: Proofreading*, they will be able to do the following:

- identify complete and incomplete sentences
- use capitalization and punctuation correctly
- select proper forms of verbs, adverbs, and adjectives
- identify and correct misspelled words
- recall spelling patterns
- apply spelling patterns
- rewrite sentences correctly

Language Arts Warm-Ups

RESEARCH AND STANDARDS

Research has shown that segmentation, or “breaking down a task,” is an effective method to use when teaching students with learning differences. Students with special needs cannot process large amounts of information at one time. However, according to Russell Gersten, presenting small segments of information and then immediately applying that information has been proven to be a successful teaching method (1999). The activities in the *Language Arts Warm-Ups* series do just that. They present small, sequenced bits of instruction with ample opportunities for practice. These pages are excellent supplements for any language arts program designed to help students sharpen their writing skills. In a report prepared for the National Center for Learning Disabilities, it was pointed out that “teaching skills such as spelling and punctuation in conjunction with skills such as organization, text structure, and revision techniques” helps students become better writers (1999).

Language Arts Warm-Ups

Regarding spelling, studies show that students with learning differences should be taught “specific spelling strategies for various word types” to improve comprehension and performance (2000). In *Language Arts Warm-Ups: Proofreading*, many different spelling strategies are addressed, including those for words with common endings, short vowel sounds, and silent letters. Specific, developmentally appropriate and focused practice is provided for each rule so that students can easily apply the spelling or writing skill.

Darch, C., et. al. (2000). “The Strategic Spelling Skills of Students With Learning Disabilities: The Results of Two Studies.” *Journal of Instructional Psychology*, 27.1: 15–27.

Gersten, R. (May 1999). “Teaching Expressive Writing to Students With Learning Disabilities.” *Keys to Successful Learning Summit*, Washington, D.C.

Swanson, H. (May 1999). “National Center for Learning Disabilities Intervention Research for Adolescents With Learning Disabilities: A Meta-Analysis of Outcomes Related to High-Order Processing.” *Keys to Successful Learning Summit*, Washington, D.C.

Capitalization

Use a **capital letter**:

- **at the beginning of a sentence.** (*The dog barks loudly.*)
- **for names of specific people, places, and things.** (*Jose visited the White House in Washington, D.C.*)
- **for the first word in most quotations.** (*"Please stop talking."*)
- **for the pronoun "I."** (*I am having a party.*)
- **for days of the week, months of the year, and holidays.** (*Thanksgiving is the fourth Thursday in November.*)

Directions: Review the rules for **capitalization**. Find and correct the mistakes below.

have you ever seen a corn maze? it's a large maze carved into a cornfield. when you walk into it, you must try to get out without getting lost. corn mazes are popular attractions in september and october. they are a lot of fun!

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