

T Introduce the Writing Prompt

Set the lesson agenda.

- *Yesterday we began our response-to-reading unit for the book Hatchet.*
- *Remember our prompt was **describe in depth a character from a book you are reading**.*
- *Let's review the descriptive outline about Brian that we started yesterday.*

Students should refer to their outlines in their draft books.

- *Today we're going to use this outline to complete our introductory paragraph.*

- Brian Robeson
- I. Thirteen years old
 - II. Lives in New York
 - III. Mom and dad divorced
 - A. Going to visit dad in Canada
 - B. Mom gives him hatchet

Brian Robeson is the main character in Hatchet by Gary Paulsen.

Review the work completed during the previous lesson.

Teach the Writing Target

1. Display the target information below.
2. Read aloud and discuss the **target**, the **definition** (this means...), the **rationale** (this is important because...), and the **example** (below).



It's TARGET time!

Give background information on the character

This means...

We summarize the information we have learned about the character at this point in the text. Often this will include information such as the character's name, age, life situation, and setting.

This is important because...

The reader needs to know the basic facts about the character to understand the story.

Karana is the main character in Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell. She lives with her tribe in the island village of Ghalas-at. She helps care for her younger brother, Ramo.

This is an example of the target from an earlier paper.



Share the Writing Process



1. From the outline begun in lesson one, write the anchor text (at right) *together*.

- ↪ Students write the text on the left-facing page below the plan.
- ↪ Write the anchor text *together* in order to ensure student success, needed practice, and teacher guidance.
- ↪ Focus on today's target.
- ↪ Prompt students for previously taught targets and support correct spelling by quickly referring to available resources.
- ↪ Assist students with these previously taught targets:
 - subject-verb agreement
 - irregular plural nouns and irregular verbs
 - simple, compound, and complex sentence structures
 - multiple modifiers
 - prepositional phrases
 - consistent perspective and tense
 - possessives
- ↪ Correct any errors during the writing process.

Brian Robeson is the main character in Hatchet by Gary Paulsen. He is 13 years old. Brian lives in a small town in New York. His mom and dad are divorced, and he is flying to visit his dad for the summer in Canada. His mom gives him a small hatchet for a goodbye gift before he gets on the plane.

Construct the outline and text above with students.

Time to write!



Write the character description paragraph (below).

Student display for writing together



Assign Independent Writing

1. Assign students to use their outline (developed independently) to write their *character background information* paragraph.
2. Direct students to write their paragraphs below their outline on the top of the right-facing page in their draft books.
3. Assign students to reread chapter 1 of Hatchet and to focus on what happened to Brian.