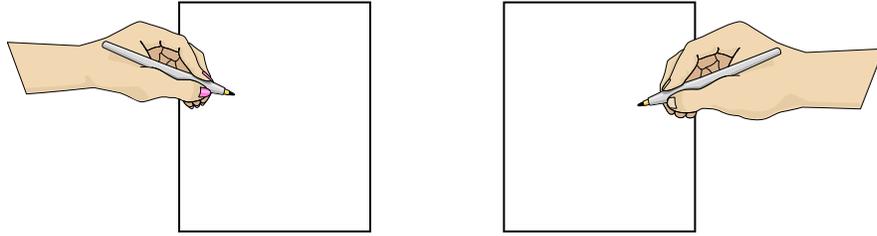


Written Conversation



Why?

Written conversation offers a unique opportunity for discovering the written system of language. The focus of this strategy is on successfully conveying meaning. The audience is immediately available to offer response; adjustments are natural to the situation.

How?

Writers work in pairs.

Writers ask and answer questions in writing.

More experienced writers must not speak. If they fail to understand each other, they must indicate that in writing. Beginning writers may read their conversations to each other if appropriate.

The teacher or another adult could act as a writer/responder to draw out a writer's strengths or weaknesses in written language and to model conventions of spelling.

Note: All you need is a piece of paper and a pencil for each writing pair. However, a composition notebook is more appropriate for recording progress over an extended time period.