

WRITING WORKSHOP

with Karen Otto

Two Sessions Available

Dates: July 20-23 and August 4-7

Times: 1-3:30 pm

Location: Online

\$300

**For Fall 2020 Sophomores, Juniors,
and Seniors**

Click [here](#) for registration form.

High school students are expected to read and respond to difficult texts by writing essays and short answer responses. In these written assessments, students must provide insightful commentary, show their stylistic maturity with concise and elevated word choice, and organize their ideas in a logical and sophisticated manner. A strong foundation of writing skills is imperative for success and achievement in high school and beyond.

Does your child struggle to write clearly and effectively?

The focus on state tests have left kids with a formulaic writing style and has hindered the basic writing process. As a result, many kids do not understand how to transfer writing skills to real-world applications. This leaves parents frustrated and students overwhelmed by the demands and expectations of an advanced writing curriculum.

This Writing Workshop will help your child find his/her own writing style.

As a way to strengthen the writing of sophomores, juniors, and seniors. I am offering a summer writing workshop based on the principles of writing that have been shown to be effective for decades.

This writing workshop will focus on:

- A Strong Foundation: Getting and Organizing Ideas, Thesis and Topic Statements
- Beat the Clock: Top-Scoring Essays in Timed Situations
- High-Stakes Tests: Writing for the STAAR, ACT, SAT, and AP assessments
- Tricking Out Your Essay: Simple Techniques to Get Your Essay Noticed
- Crafting the College Essay: How to Wow Colleges

Students will be guided through the foundational elements of the writing process so that they understand the steps and techniques of effective writing. Students will also participate in mini-lessons on specific content and editing strategies.

Models of effective writing will be shown, discussed, and imitated. Time for drafting and revising, peer response, and teacher conferencing will also be incorporated in every session. This writing workshop will encourage young writers to discover their own style, voice, and potential, ultimately, helping students grow and build self confidence in their writing abilities.

About Karen Otto

As a veteran Carroll ISD teacher, Karen is familiar with the rigors and expectations of English courses in Carroll ISD. Her experience in the classroom (22 years and counting), MA in English, M.Ed., doctoral work, and extensive knowledge of the writing process have taught her that all students can write if they are just given the tools to do so. Karen's presentations at state-level conferences and as a consultant for education service centers and districts across Texas have helped other teachers learn how to successfully improve their students' writing. Karen was recently awarded the Texas Council of English's High School Teacher of the Year (2019) and the Texas Association of the Gifted & Talented's Educator of the Year (2018). Karen is in the home stretch of obtaining her PhD in Rhetoric & Composition from UTA.

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Testimonials from Students:

“Because of Mrs. Otto’s tips and feedback, I feel more confident as a writer.”

“Mrs. Otto has helped me so much! I am now able to write with more ease and confidence than ever before.”

“You’ve truly had a phenomenal impact on me and my writing. The amount of just... THINGS I learned (I know, things is very general, but words cannot even begin to describe the various lessons I took from your class) that I continue to use and hold onto outmatches that of any other class.”

Testimonials from Parents:

“My son has grown more confident in his writing because of Mrs. Otto’s writing camp. Mrs. Otto has been pivotal in my son’s development as a writer.”

“I give Mrs. Otto full credit for taking my son, who avoids reading and writing, and in some magical way made that child into one who tells me that he now actually enjoys writing. I attribute this to her skill at teaching and her ability to transfer some of her love and excitement for reading and writing to her students.”

“After reading the writing that my son wrote during your camp, I was blown away. It is a cut above any work that I’ve ever seen him produce. It is so satisfying to see your children excel! I wanted to thank you for providing this writing camp and the challenge and support he needed to grow as a writer. He’s a great kid and works hard, so he definitely earns the grades, but I am also quite confident in saying that he could not have achieved this level of writing without the environment and guidance that you have provided him.”

“I spoke with my son this week as he was going into an intense period of exams and papers. He got A's on all of his papers and one professor actually read his introduction to the class. When I asked who could take credit for his successes, he said, ‘Otto all the way!!! I used the packet of information Mrs. Otto gave me during the summer writing camp, and it really helped.’”

“Just wanted to let you know my daughter really enjoyed the camp. She looked forward to going every day and happily told me what she did each day.”

Questions? Email me at mrskarenotto@gmail.com or call/text me at
817-217-8487

Need registration form? Click [here](#) for registration form.