



UNDERSTANDING WRITING

by Susan Bradrick

A complete Grammar & Composition Curriculum for Grades 1-12

- ▶ Distinctively Christ-centered
- ▶ Multi-level
- ▶ Teaches Grammar, Mechanics, & Effective Written Communication
- ▶ Focuses on communicating real ideas to real people
- ▶ Contains complete lesson plans for enjoyable, parent-directed lessons
- ▶ Prepares students **for confident, proficient writing of all types** necessary for adult life

And it works!

I just wanted to say "Thank you" for UNDERSTANDING WRITING. My daughter who is in 6th grade could not even write a paragraph three weeks ago and would get so frustrated whenever I asked her to write something. Now we both look forward to writing every day. I'm telling all of our homeschool friends about this.

– Homeschooling Mother, NE

www.UnderstandingWriting.com

UNDERSTANDING WRITING:

- ▶ Replaces yearly English texts; no other English grammar curriculum needed.
- ▶ Is non-consumable, one copy per family.
- ▶ Weaves together practical instruction in Grammar, Writing Mechanics, Composition Skills, and Writing Style, and more.

How does it work?

As with piano instruction, all new students must start at or near the beginning:

- **1st GRADE:** Start in Level 1 after a child has a mastered reading and spelling vocabulary of fifty words or more. (*Phonics, handwriting, spelling, and reading instruction are supported by but not included in UNDERSTANDING WRITING.*)
- **2nd GRADE-ADULT:** Start in Level 2 where essential foundational writing instruction begins. Older students will master lessons & finish the course faster than younger ones do.
- ▶ Consists of 5-day **Teaching Units** alternating with 5-day **Writing Units** enabling students to practice what they have just learned.
- ▶ Actively develops reasoning, critical thinking, and discussion skills.
- ▶ Contains daily lessons which are ready-to-use and require only occasional, brief parent preparation.
- ▶ Is written for home schoolers by a mother of nine who has home-schooled since 1981.

Writing Examples by Students of UNDERSTANDING WRITING

A Wiggly Sweater

This week I went to the Fort Worth Livestock Exposition. I walked through many animal barns, but my favorite was full of sheep! Some fat, woolly sheep huddled together in pens, while others were standing on tables with their heads tied in a brace. The men used big clippers to carefully shear their thick, curly wool. After their "haircut", they looked humble and thin. Petting the sheep was like petting a warm, wiggly sweater.

Student, age 8

www.UnderstandingWriting.com

A Strange Winter Storm

As we were driving through the rolling hills of Kansas, we saw a misty gray vapor rise into the sky. Soon there was a big gust of wind, the sky grew dark, and rain burst from the clouds. As the drips pattered heavily on the window, the black clouds crept over the hills and settled in a distant field. Then the sun peeked shyly over the icy blue sky and turned into a brilliant crimson, magenta, and lavender sunset.

Student, age 10

Comments from Parents & Reviewers of UNDERSTANDING WRITING

UNDERSTANDING WRITING wins my vote for 'Best Curriculum on the Market.' Within a few short weeks of implementation, my children wrote memories instead of simply paragraphs.... Several of my friends use your product with equal or better success. Thank you for creating a 'user friendly' and master-oriented tool for us.

– Homeschooling Mother, WA

Two years ago, I began using your book **UNDERSTANDING WRITING** with my son, who was beginning seventh grade. We started using your book from its first section... the first year of use, we were able to finish level 4 and a few pages into level 5. After using the book's ideas, my son began to write and feel capable of writing assignments. This was a wonderful change for a boy who couldn't write a decent paragraph. When my son was tested at the end of grade seven, he received a score in the superior, above average range.

– Homeschooling Mother, CT

This is one thorough program! I greatly appreciate Susan Bradrick's emphasis on godly communication. She constantly brings us back to the scripture, "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt so that you may know how to respond to each person..." (Colossians 4:6).



I also love the emphasis on developing research skills. From the earliest levels, dictionaries, handbooks, and thesauri are seen as the writer's friends and used in meaningful activities. Another strength of the program is the focus on the revision process . . . and Susan teaches the parent how to lead a child in evaluating his own work.

Heather Jackowitz, *The Old Schoolhouse Magazine*

www.UnderstandingWriting.com

Partial List of Skills Mastered Using UNDERSTANDING WRITING:

- ▶ Serving the Lord & others through writing
- ▶ Choosing interesting and God-honoring topics
- ▶ Writing for a wide variety of readers
- ▶ Tailoring a topic to suit a specific audience
- ▶ Writing about your real ideas and real experiences to real people
- ▶ Delivering each written piece to its intended recipient
- ▶ Writing graciously
- ▶ Writing concisely
- ▶ Understanding and writing excellent sentences and paragraphs
- ▶ Using necessary punctuation and capitalization
- ▶ Using contractions & abbreviations
- ▶ Understanding the parts of speech for improving one's own writing
- ▶ Planning a written piece before writing
- ▶ Limiting a topic to fit the desired length of a written piece
- ▶ Observing the subject of one's topic before writings
- ▶ Research skills
- ▶ Writing summaries
- ▶ Writing outlines
- ▶ Choosing and supporting main ideas
- ▶ Editing, revising, and rewriting
- ▶ Using the library, dictionary, synonym finder, and English handbooks
- ▶ Mastering the four basic types of writing (descriptive, narrative, informative, persuasive)
- ▶ Practicing a variety of writing forms (e.g. all types of letters and social notes, summaries, book reports, note taking, reports, research papers, children's literature, persuasive essays, and more.)

UNDERSTANDING WRITING students & graduates are testing very well. Many are winning writing contests, testing out of college writing courses, and advancing in jobs due to writing skills. Several are published authors of books, articles, films, and other word-based media.

What comes with the UNDERSTANDING WRITING Curriculum?

- ▶ 360 page, 8½ x 11" manual in 7-ring binder
- ▶ 50-page tablet of Planning, Evaluation, and Teaching sheets ("PET Sheets"), reproducible for your own family's personal use
- ▶ Plastic Line-guide Template for easily adding guide lines to stationery and other paper.

Are any other books or materials needed for this curriculum?

- ▶ In addition to thorough composition training, UNDERSTANDING WRITING Levels 6-8 provide a comprehensive English grammar review & advanced grammar study.
- ▶ For this study, choose between:
 1. *Easy Grammar Plus* and *Easy Writing* by Wanda Phillips, OR
 2. *ABeka Grammar & Composition, Grades 8 & 10*, by James Chapman, OR
 3. A comprehensive, 1-2 year high school level grammar program of your choice.

Other Reference tools needed for use with UNDERSTANDING WRITING:

- The **Rod & Staff English Handbook** (Level 2-12)
- The Synonym Finder*, a thesaurus which is easier to use and more complete than most; it is hardbound and contains over 1360 pages. (Level 2-12) – see your favorite book store
- The ABeka *Handbook of Composition & Grammar* by James Chapman (Level 3-12)
- The Elements of Style*, a masterful classic on concise and effective communication, is recommended reading for all high school students. (Level 9-12)

Students will learn to use these reference books as valuable tools for writing throughout life.

UNDERSTANDING WRITING Ordering Information

Prices: (U.S. funds)

UNDERSTANDING WRITING Curriculum	\$75.00
Shipping & Handling (within U.S.)	7.50
(within Canada)	12.00
WA Residents' Tax	6.30
Extra Line-Guide Template	8.00
WA Residents' Tax	.80
Shipping & Handling -(within U.S.)	2.25
(within Canada)	3.50

To order:

Send your request for desired products, along with your name, mailing address (including zip code) plus your check or money order payable to Bradrick Family Enterprises to:

Bradrick Family Enterprises
25 Geissler Road
Montesano, WA 98563

No phone orders. For questions about your order, please call 360-249-2472 during Pacific Time business hours.

Money Back Guarantee:

- ▶ We are confident most families will enjoy and benefit from UNDERSTANDING WRITING.
- ▶ However, if our curriculum does not meet your needs, we will refund your money **less postage** under the following conditions:
 - The curriculum is returned in its original packing box **within 14 days** of receiving it
 - The manual, PET Sheet tablet, and template are in **perfect, resalable condition**, free from creases, marks, or damage of any kind.

UNDERSTANDING WRITING reference & grammar materials can be purchased from:

- ▶ Abeka Handbook & Grammar Texts: 877-223-5226
- ▶ Rod & Staff *English Handbook*: 606-522-4348
- ▶ The other books recommended are available through major homeschool suppliers and/or through your local bookstore.