



“The Ontario Literacy Course: Differentiated Instruction”

Discipline	English
Course Code	OLC 401
Course Name	Ontario Literacy Course-Open Level
Unit	Informational Paragraph Writing

Ontario Curriculum Expectations
<p>Overall</p> <p>BWV.01: Demonstrates the ability to use the writing process by generating and organizing ideas and producing first drafts, revised drafts, and final polished pieces to complete a variety of writing tasks.</p> <p>BWV.02: Use knowledge of writing forms, and of the connections between form, audience, and purpose, to write summaries, informational paragraphs, opinion pieces, news reports, and personal reflections, incorporating graphic elements where necessary and appropriate.</p>
<p>Specific</p> <p>BW1.01: Identify the topic, the audience, the purpose for writing, and the requirements of the particular writing form.</p> <p>BW1.02: Use pre-writing strategies to generate ideas for writing.</p> <p>BW1.05: Use appropriate strategies for gathering supporting ideas and information from print and electronic sources.</p>

- BW1.06: Create a first draft that includes the main and supporting ideas in the required form.
- BW1.07: Revise drafts to ensure that ideas are presented in a logical order, to discard irrelevant ideas and information, to add details where information is insufficient, and to ensure a tone and level of language appropriate to the audience and purpose using appropriate strategies.
- BW1.09: Use appropriate strategies to edit written work to achieve accuracy in the use of the conventions of standard Canadian English, including the requirements of grammar, usage, spelling and punctuation.
- BW2.04: Construct clear, complete information paragraphs, some with graphic elements, for a variety of purposes, using correct paragraph structure.
- BW2.07: Use knowledge of how to write summaries, information paragraphs, and opinion pieces to produce informational writing for a variety of personal and school related purposes.

Brief Lesson Overview:

- 1) Teacher introduces Informational Writing to the class by providing students with 18 different points on one topic as a sample.
- 2) Direct students as a class or in groups, to put the points into groups based on which points are similar to one another.
- 3) The teacher reviews correct paragraph format (Introductory Sentence, Body Sentences with Transition Words, and Concluding Sentence) with the class.
- 4) Direct students to write a paragraph, as a class or in groups, based on one of the groupings they found in the set of 18 points.
- 5) The teacher will then provide students with the Informational Paragraph Worksheet instructing students to group the points together and write their own Informational Paragraph. See Appendix.

Resources and Appendices:

- Cars Informational Paragraph Worksheet
- Video Games Informational Paragraph Worksheet
- Sports Informational Paragraph Worksheet

Information Paragraph

Task: Write a well-constructed information paragraph (one paragraph only) on one aspect of the topic below. This aspect will become the main idea of your paragraph.

From the 18 points below, choose at least four as supporting details to develop your main idea. In your paragraph, include a topic sentence, supporting details and a concluding sentence. You must use the information from the list.

Purpose and Audience: The purpose is to provide information to an adult on one aspect of the topic.

Topic: **Cars Made by Honda.**

Length: The lined space provided for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.

The Honda Crosstour came out in 2010.	The Honda CRV has been in production since 1996.
Honda is a Japanese company that has many manufacturing plants in other countries.	As of 2008, the Honda Civic has been the top selling car in Canada for 11 years.
“CRV” stands for “Compact Recreational Vehicle.	The Honda Element began being manufactured in 2003.
The Honda Element can tow 680 kg. or 1500 lbs. of weight.	The Honda Accord Crosstour has 2,871 liters of cargo space.
The Honda Fit was introduced in 2001.	Soichiro Honda, a Japanese man, founded the Honda Motor Company.
The Honda Accord Crosstour has a hatchback design with a very useful interior.	The Honda Civic won the “North American Car of the Year” award at the North American International Auto Show in 2006.
The Honda Element has a “pet restraint system” in it for pet owners.	The Honda “Fit” is called the Honda “Jazz” in Europe, Australia, the Middle East, and South Africa.
The Honda CRV is available in both a 5 speed manual and 4 speed automatic transmissions.	Honda is well known for its high quality and excellent safety scores.
As of 2007, over 2 million Fit/Jazz cars have been sold worldwide.	The Honda Civic was first introduced in 1972.

Information Paragraph

Task: Write a well-constructed information paragraph (one paragraph only) on one aspect of the topic below. This aspect will become the main idea of your paragraph.

From the 12 points below, choose at least four as supporting details to develop your main idea. In your paragraph, include a topic sentence, supporting details and a concluding sentence. You must use the information from the list.

Purpose and

Audience: to The purpose is to provide information to an adult on one aspect of the topic.

Topic: **Hockey**

Length: The lined space provided for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.

- NHL stands for National Hockey League
- The NHL was founded in 1917
- The “Original Six Era” refers to the years 1942-1967, when there were only 6 teams in the NHL: Boston Bruins, Chicago Black Hawks, Detroit Red Wings, Montreal Canadiens, New York Rangers and Toronto Maple Leafs
- The “Expansion Era” refers to the years 1967-1992, when teams were added to the Original Six, thus expanding the NHL. By the end of the Expansion Era, the number of teams in the NHL had expanded from 6 teams to 22 teams.
- The “Modern Era” refers to the years 1992-present, as the NHL continued to grow. The league has grown from 22 teams to 30 teams.
- Hockey has been an Olympic sport since 1920.
- Until 1988, professional hockey players (from the NHL) were not allowed to compete in the Olympics.
- The “Miracle on Ice” refers to the medal round game at the 1980 Olympics, where the United States beat the Soviet Union, who were the favorites to win the gold.
- Canada last won the gold medal in 2002, in Salt Lake City.
- Hockey is a contact sport and the chances of injury are high.
- Head injuries account for almost 80% of all hockey injuries.

Information Paragraph

Task: Write a well-constructed information paragraph (one paragraph only) on one aspect of the topic below. This aspect will become the main idea of your paragraph.

From the 18 points below, choose at least four as supporting details to develop your main idea. In your paragraph, include a topic sentence, supporting details and a concluding sentence. You must use the information from the list.

Purpose and

Audience: The purpose is to provide information to an adult on one aspect of the topic.

Topic: Video games.

Length: The lined space provided for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.

- Rating symbols suggest age appropriateness for the games
- Gaming computers emerged in the early 1980s
- With better graphics and more realistic characters, some teens would now prefer to play games than hang out with friends and family
- The 1970s is considered to be the “golden age” of video arcade games
- Video games have their roots in missile defense systems developed in the late 1940s
- Children and teens who are diagnosed with one of several emotional and behavioral disorder are more likely than their peers to become addicted to the Internet
- The Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) has developed a rating system for video games
- A graphical version of tic-tac-toe was created in 1951
- For some people, gaming becomes an uncontrollable compulsion rather than a fun game
- Studies show that the average video game addict is 35 years old and more depressed than the general population
- There are rules to ensure responsible advertising practices by the video game industry when it comes to rating systems
- 10 to 15% of gamers exhibit signs that meet the World Health Organization’s criteria for addiction
- The first commercial game was “Computer Space,” released in 1971
- Gaming addiction is not yet officially recognized as a diagnosable disorder
- There is increasing evidence that people of all ages, especially teens and pre-teens, are facing severe consequences associated with compulsive use of video games
- The missile defense system simulated a missile firing at a target
- Adult Only (AO) rated games have content suitable only for adults
- Teens can neglect their family, friends, work, and school to play video games