

Guided Notes: Four Square Writing Strategy

I. Purpose of the Four Square Writing Strategy

The Four Square Writing Strategy helps:

- * Improve _____ and _____ skills
- * Serves as a _____ and _____ aid for writing
- * Focuses on providing _____ and enhancing _____
- * Helps _____, _____, and _____ a piece of writing

II. Steps of the Four Square Writing Strategy

Step 1: Draw the Four Square

- * Create a _____ grid on paper or digitally

Step 2: Central Idea

- * Place the _____ or _____ in the center square

Step 3: Supporting Details

- * In the remaining _____ squares, write:
 - Supporting _____
 - _____
 - _____ that relate to the central idea

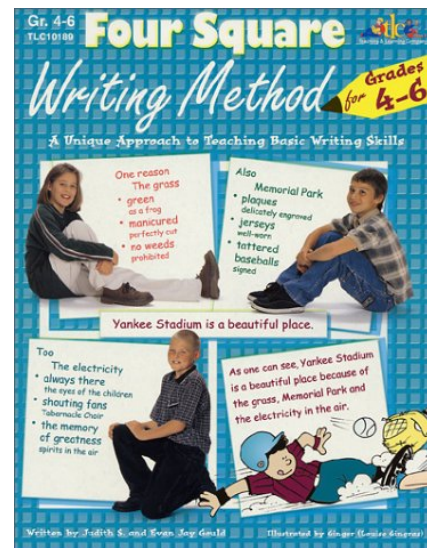
Step 4: Elaboration

- * For each supporting detail, add:
 - More _____ information
 - _____
 - _____ to expand on it further

Step 5: Paragraph Writing

- * Use information from the four squares to write a _____
- * Each square becomes a _____ or a group of _____
- * The teacher will _____ moving the information from the square into a paragraph

Remember: The Four Square Writing Strategy is a helpful tool to organize your thoughts and create well-structured paragraphs!



The Four Square Writing Method is a visual strategy developed by Evan J. Gould and Judith S. Gould. It helps students organize their thoughts and ideas before writing. It uses a simple graphic organizer to structure writing, particularly for developing paragraphs and essays. Research indicates that this method is effective in improving various aspects of writing, including content, organization, language use, and mechanics.

Here's a breakdown of the method and its research:

How it works:

1. Visual Framework:

The method uses a four-square grid (often with a center square or circle) as a visual aid.

2. Organizing Ideas:

Students write their main topic or thesis statement in the center square.

3. Supporting Details:

They then write three supporting ideas or details in the remaining squares, often one in each corner.

4. Developing Paragraphs:

This framework helps students develop a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence, facilitating the creation of well-structured paragraphs.

5. Expanding to Essays:

The method can be expanded for longer essays by using multiple four-square organizers, one for each paragraph.

Research findings:

Improved Writing Skills:

Research suggests that the four square writing method can significantly improve various aspects of writing, including content, organization, language use, and mechanics, according to ResearchGate and [Czasopisma Marszalek.com.pl](https://czasopisma.marszalek.com.pl).

Reduced Writing Anxiety:

Studies have shown that the method can also positively impact writing anxiety, especially for English language learners, by making the writing process less daunting, [according to ERIC - Education Resources Information Center \(.gov\)](#).

Enhanced Comprehension:

By providing a visual structure, the method can help students better understand the relationships between ideas and develop their thoughts more effectively, [according to Comprehension Connection](#).

Versatile Application:

The four square method has been used effectively in various writing contexts, including descriptive writing, essay writing, and even solving word problems.

Adaptability:

While research suggests the method's effectiveness, some researchers say that its application may need to be adapted based on different cultural contexts and educational systems.

In essence, the four square writing method offers a structured and visually appealing approach to writing instruction that can benefit students of various ages and skill levels.