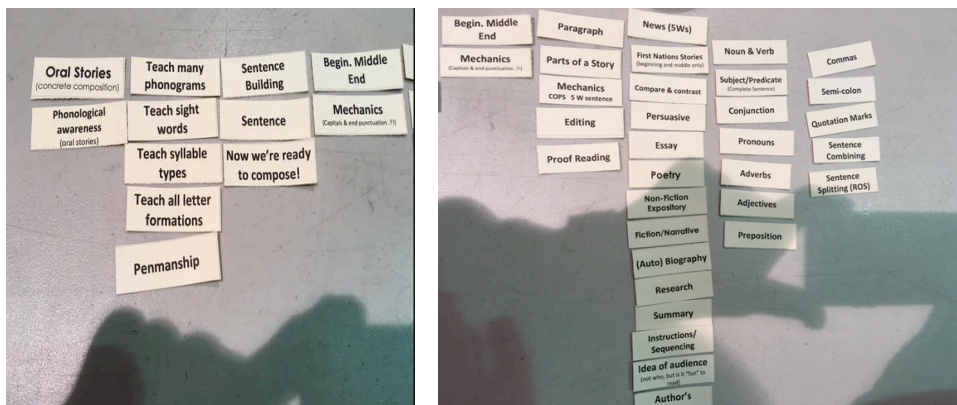


CATT Member-to Member

Feb. 22, 2018

As a new member, I was totally impressed by the organization, background knowledge and thought (not to mention great home-baked goodies) that the Richmond Support Group brought to the February 22nd CATT Member to Member session at the Richmond Library and Cultural Centre. For starters, each small group received 30 to 40 small slips of paper. On each piece was written an element of the writing process, from oral stories and penmanship through research, sentence combining, and punctuation. We worked together to organize all the bits into our own road map of composition skills (See photos below). Could this be a step on the way to creating a Composition Scope and Sequence? You bet! It just needs someone to take on the task.



After a short break, we organized into five stations. For ten packed minutes at each station, a well-prepared Richmond member presented one approach to teaching writing. Topics included:

- Sentence Analysis (intro to parts of speech, including a helpful poem on the topic and a fabulous list of children's books about parts of speech)
- Sentence stretching
- Paragraph organization using a 4-square strategy (topic sentence, 3 points and conclusion)
- Proofreading and Editing (How are they different? What's involved in each?)
- Poetry writing (simple but powerful steps to Haiku)

Each presenter was beautifully clear and absolutely as to-the-point as a ten-minute session requires. Yet their organization and handouts left me feeling ready to implement much of what I'd learned—and I had a clearer sense of where each skill fitted in the grand scheme of writing skills. It was a great evening of learning and a delightful chance to meet fellow members. Thank you, Richmond Support Group!

Bob Ennenberg