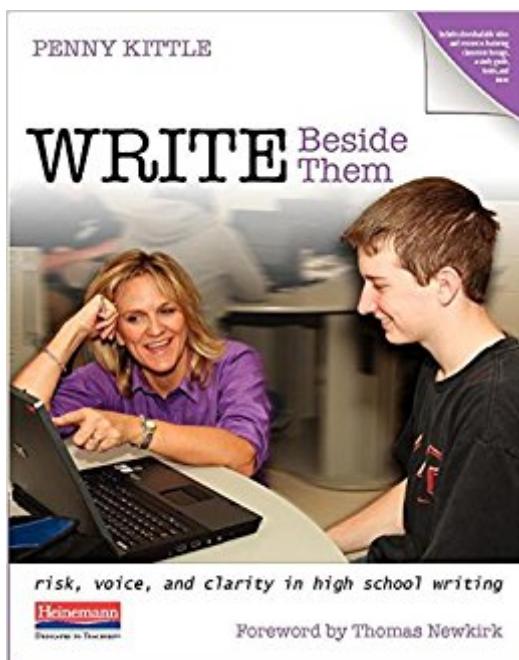


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# Write Beside Them: Risk, Voice, And Clarity In High School Writing



## Synopsis

This book is about teaching writing and the gritty particulars of teaching adolescents. But it is also the planning, the thinking, the writing, the journey: all I've been putting into my teaching for the last two decades. This is the book I wanted when I was first given ninth graders and a list of novels to teach. This is a book of vision and hope and joy, but it is also a book of genre units and minilessons and actual conferences with students. -Penny Kittle What makes the single biggest difference to student writers? When the invisible machinery of your writing processes is made visible to them.

Write Beside Them shows you how to do it. It's the comprehensive book and companion video that English/language arts teachers need to ensure that teens improve their writing. Across genres, Penny Kittle presents a flexible framework for instruction, the theory and experience to back it up, and detailed teaching information to help you implement it right away. Each section of Write Beside Them describes a specific element of Penny's workshop: Daily writing practice: writer's notebooks and quick writes Instructional frameworks: minilessons, organization, conferring, and sharing drafts

Genre work: narrative, persuasion, and writing in multiple genres Skills work: grammar, punctuation, and style Assessment: evaluation, feedback, portfolios, and grading All along the way, Penny demonstrates minilessons that respond to students' immediate needs, and her Student Focus sections profile and spotlight how individual writers grew and changed over the course of her workshop. In addition, Write Beside Them provides a study guide, reproducibles, writing samples from Penny and her students, suggestions for nurturing your own writing life, and a helpful FAQ. Best of all, the online videos take you right inside Penny's classroom, explicitly modeling how to make the process of writing accessible to all kids. Penny Kittle's active coaching and can-do attitude alone will energize your teaching and inspire you to write with your students. But her strategies, expert advice, and compelling in-class video footage will help you turn inspiration into great teaching. Read Write Beside Them and discover that the most important influence for all young writers is their teacher. Penny was the recipient of the 2009 NCTE Britton Award for Write Beside Them.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a professional development coordinator for the Conway, New Hampshire, School District, Penny Kittle acts as a K-12 literacy coach and directs new-teacher mentoring. In addition, she teaches writing at Conway's Kennett High School and in the Summer Literacy Institutes at the University of New Hampshire. Penny is the author and coauthor of numerous books with Heinemann including Book Love: Developing Depth, Stamina, and Passion in Adolescent Readers; Children Want to Write (coauthored with Thomas Newkirk); Write Beside Them: Risk, Voice, and Clarity in High School Writing, which won the 2009 James N. Britton Award from NCTE; The Greatest Catch, and Public Teaching. Penny coauthored two books with Donald H. Graves - Inside Writing and Quick Writes. As an in-demand Heinemann Professional Development Provider Penny delivers PD workshops, webinars, and on-site seminars and consulting services nationwide. Penny Kittle has been named the 2015 Exemplary Leader from the Conference on English Leadership for NCTE. In 2009, Penny received NCTE's prestigious Britton Award for Write Beside Them. Penny's students make a statement about how student choice in reading has affected them.

This is the best book for how to teach writing. I am using it in my Approaches to Teaching English, and the students love it. This is the first time I have ever taught a class where the students absolutely love the book. The book also allows you to go on line and watch videos of Penny teaching and having conferences. I HIGHLY recommend this book

This was a required text for the Master's in Reading at Saint Joseph's University, and was by far the most useful to me as a high school teacher working with low level students. Ms. Kittle really understood the plight of the high school teacher in regards to how much reading readiness is focused on the lower grades. This is a text that should be used in all secondary education programs.

I bought this book for a graduate writing class I was taking, and it has had a very positive impact on the way I teach writing to my students. Kittle offers great practical advice that you can take and apply directly to your classroom. Using ideas from the book, I was able to develop an entire creative writing curriculum, the first one ever offered at our school. The students loved it, and really enjoyed journaling, writing stories, conferencing, and putting together a portfolio at the end. One of the most helpful books I read in graduate school.

Write Beside Them is written with voice, humor, and humility. Penny Kittle does not tell us she has the perfect class with the perfect student. She tells us how to stick with what we believe to help our students achieve their fullest potential. I teach third grade (self-contained) and still gained so much insight into writing workshop with a constructivist approach by reading Penny's book. The dvd is phenomenal! It has her first day of class, her conferring with students, student work . . . I think writing teachers of grades 3 and up can gain from this book although it is geared to high school English teachers. Penny also refers to the work of other great writing teachers - Don Murray, Don Graves, Tom Romano, Tom Newkirk, Linda Reif, Nancy Atwell; it helps to have all these resources that readers can turn to for more information.

I had this book assigned for a college course I was taking last semester, I am studying to be a high school English teacher, and I cannot wait to go back and re-read it over the summer before I do my student teaching! Each chapter made me think about writing completely differently, and the provided DVD showed how Kittle actually runs her class and the students' reactions. I cannot begin to explain how much this book has helped me already, and I will continue to return to its wealth of knowledge as I try to help my future students with their writing!

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The examples for a beginning teacher provide great ideas to base lesson plans off of. I am pleased with this product.

The book arrived but did not include the CD. I would highly recommended checking to see if the book includes the CD.

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