

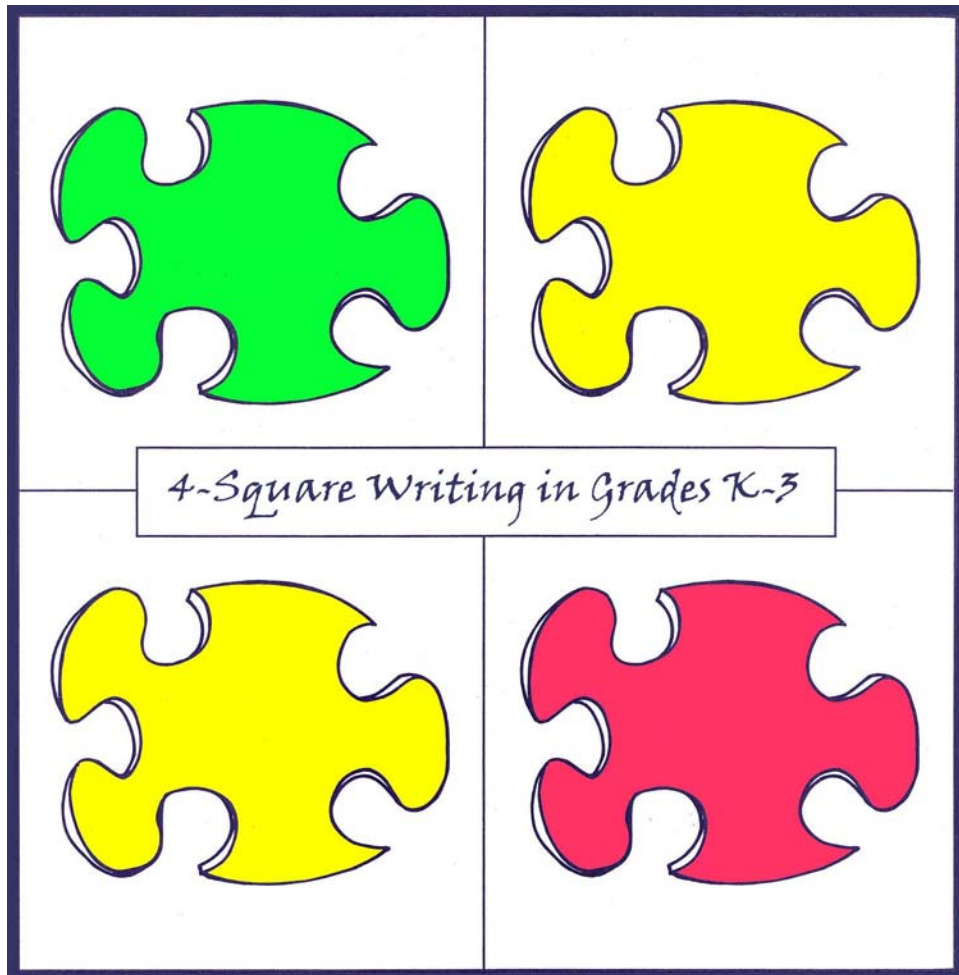


Image taken from Four Square Writing Method for Grades 1-3 by Gould & Gould, p. 52

*Caryn Camp, Grade 3 Teacher
Linnaeus W. West School
Endicott, NY
2002 - 2003*

Credits

The step-by-step Four Square Writing Method, as described in this presentation, is based on the book, Four Square Writing Method for Grades 1 – 3: A Unique Approach to Teaching Basic Writing Skills, written by Judith S. and Evan Jay Gould, and illustrated by Mary Galan Rojas (1999, published by the Teaching & Learning Company, Carthage, IL)

Miss Camp's Third Grade Students, 2002 – 2003

- ▶ The students jumped into the Four-Square Writing Method at Step 6, and created their first 5-paragraph essay in only 1 – 2 days! Their prerequisite knowledge and experience included the ability to create a “Main Idea – Detail” graphic organizer, and to turn that organizer into a paragraph where the first sentence is the main idea of the paragraph, and the following sentences are supporting details. The students were also familiar with the terms “introductory sentence,” “concluding sentence,” and “transitional words” for paragraph writing.
- ▶ Of the 19 students in the class, 6 are identified as “resource room” students (primarily learning disabled), with one having autism. In addition to these students, there are 4 – 5 students who have a significantly difficult time maintaining focus on a task or in their writing.

Preface

I created examples for Steps 1 – 5 to go with the same theme that my students did for Steps 6 – 9. My reason for doing this is to show how each step builds upon the one before, and, in this way, creates a type of scaffolding for young writers.

A note about the Christmas theme: We began this 2-day project shortly before Christmas. With each and every one of my students celebrating Christmas, and with that being what was on each of their minds, using it as a theme in writing was not only a great source of motivation for the students, it also caught and held their attention. There were no reluctant writers! Before I began guiding the students through the process, I modeled it for them using [“Thanksgiving”](#) as the favorite holiday.

A week following this project, on the last two days before the Winter Break, each of the students used the Four Square to create a 5-paragraph Persuasive Essay, with an intended audience of their parents or guardians, for the purpose of convincing them what would be the perfect present for him or her – and why!

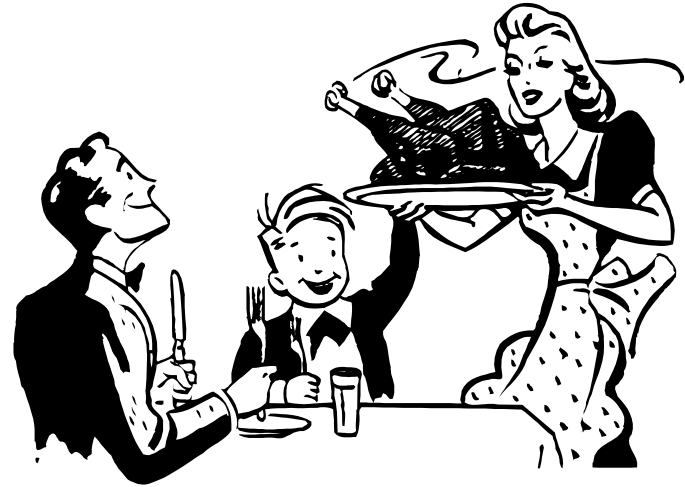
Most recently, we have been using the 4-Square along with the Story Map for designing and organizing fictional stories that have a problem and solution (creative writing).

We are also experimenting with the use of graphic organizers, such as the 4-Square and the Story Map, for aiding in the students’ understanding and solving of story problems in math.

*Caryn Camp
March, 2002*

Table of Contents

Grade level	Step	Purpose	Page
K	1	Categorizing: Understanding Similarities	5
Late K, early 1	2	Labeling Writing with a Summary Sentence: Using a “feeling sentence” in 4 th Square	6
1	3	Placing a Sentence in the Center of the Four Square: Using reasons instead of examples	7
Late 1, early 2	4	Writing a Paragraph (Taking it off the organizer)	8
2	5	4-Square + 1: Adding more details	9
2	5a	Writing a Paragraph (Taking it off the “Step 5” Four-Square organizer)	10
		Intro to Transition Words	11 – 14
Late 2, early 3	5b	Adding Transition Words to the “Step 5” Four-Square organizer)	15
Late 2, early 3	5c	Writing a Paragraph (Taking it off the “Step 5b” Four-Square organizer)	16
3	6	Writing a Concluding Sentence: First step in preparing a 5-paragraph essay	17
3	7	4-Square +3: Adding Supporting Details (2 nd step in preparing a 5-paragraph essay)	18
3	8	4-Square +3 +C: Adding Transitional Words (3 rd step in preparing a 5-paragraph essay)	19 – 22
3	9	Writing a 5-paragraph essay: Taking the Writing off the Organizer	23
3	9b	A variation on Color-Coding: Highlighting the Jobs	24 – 25
3		Student Examples in Grade 3	26 – 50



Christmas



Presents

Family

Christmas

Decorations

Feeling Sentence:

I love the Christmas holiday.

3/9/2003

We get presents at Christmas.

We spend time with our family at

Christmas.

My favorite holiday is
Christmas .

My family and I put up decorations
at Christmas.

Feeling Sentence:

I love the Christmas holiday.

STEP 4: Writing a Paragraph:
(Taking it off the organizer)

My favorite holiday is Christmas.
We get presents at Christmas. We
spend time with our family at
Christmas. My family and I put up
decorations at Christmas. I love the
Christmas holiday.

We get presents at Christmas.

Detail: They are under the tree.

We spend time with our family at Christmas.

Detail: We have a great

Christmas dinner together.

My favorite holiday is
Christmas .

My family and I put up decorations at Christmas.

Detail: We hang a wreath on the
front door.

Feeling Sentence:

I love the Christmas holiday.

STEP 5a: Writing a Paragraph

(Taking it off the “Step 5” Four-Square organizer)

My favorite holiday is Christmas.
We get presents at Christmas.
They are under the tree. We spend
time with our family at Christmas.
We have a great Christmas dinner
together. My family and I put up
decorations at Christmas. We hang
a wreath on the front door. I love
the Christmas holiday.

Wall Poster

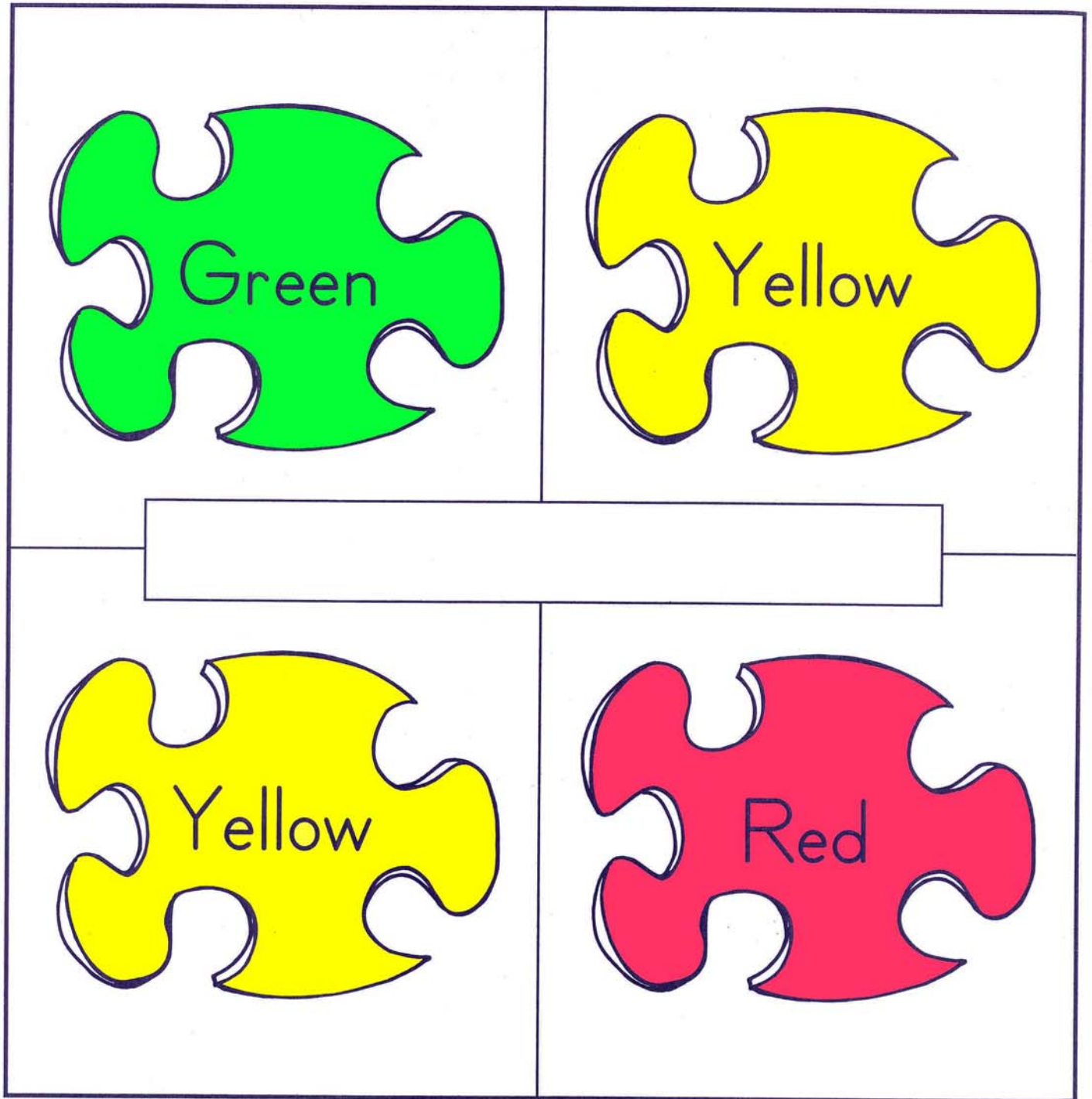
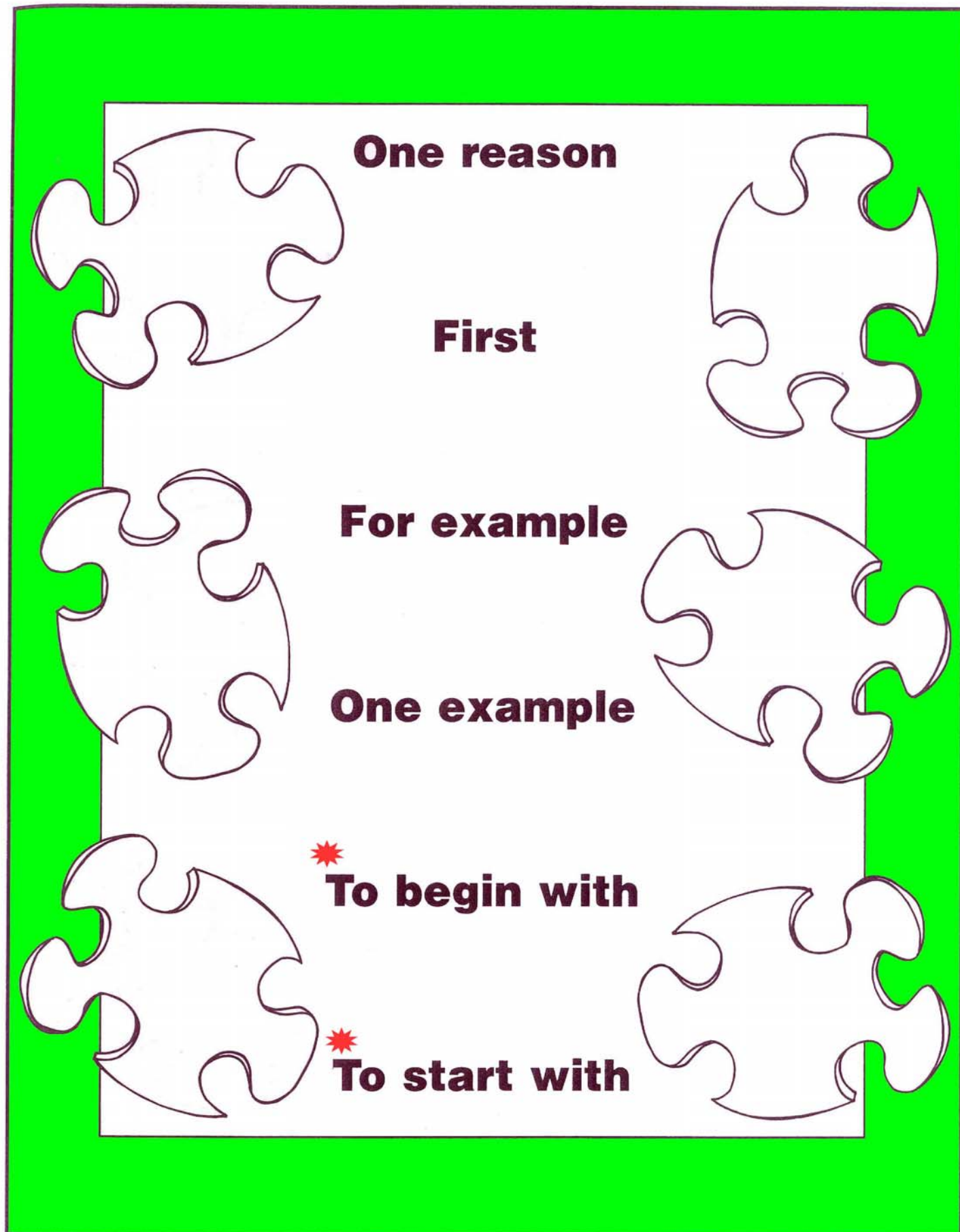
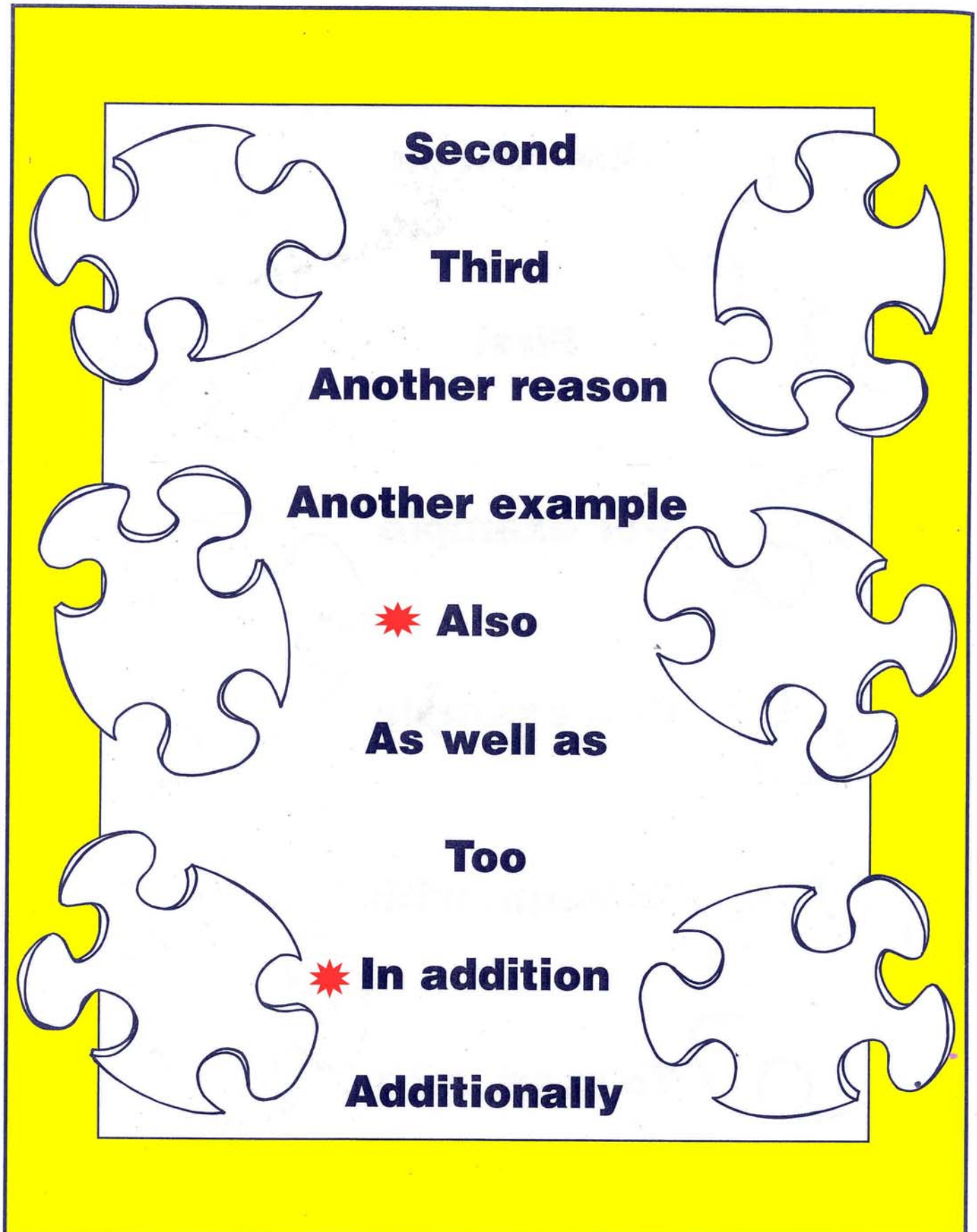


Image taken from Four Square Writing Method for Grades 1-3 by Gould & Gould, p. 52



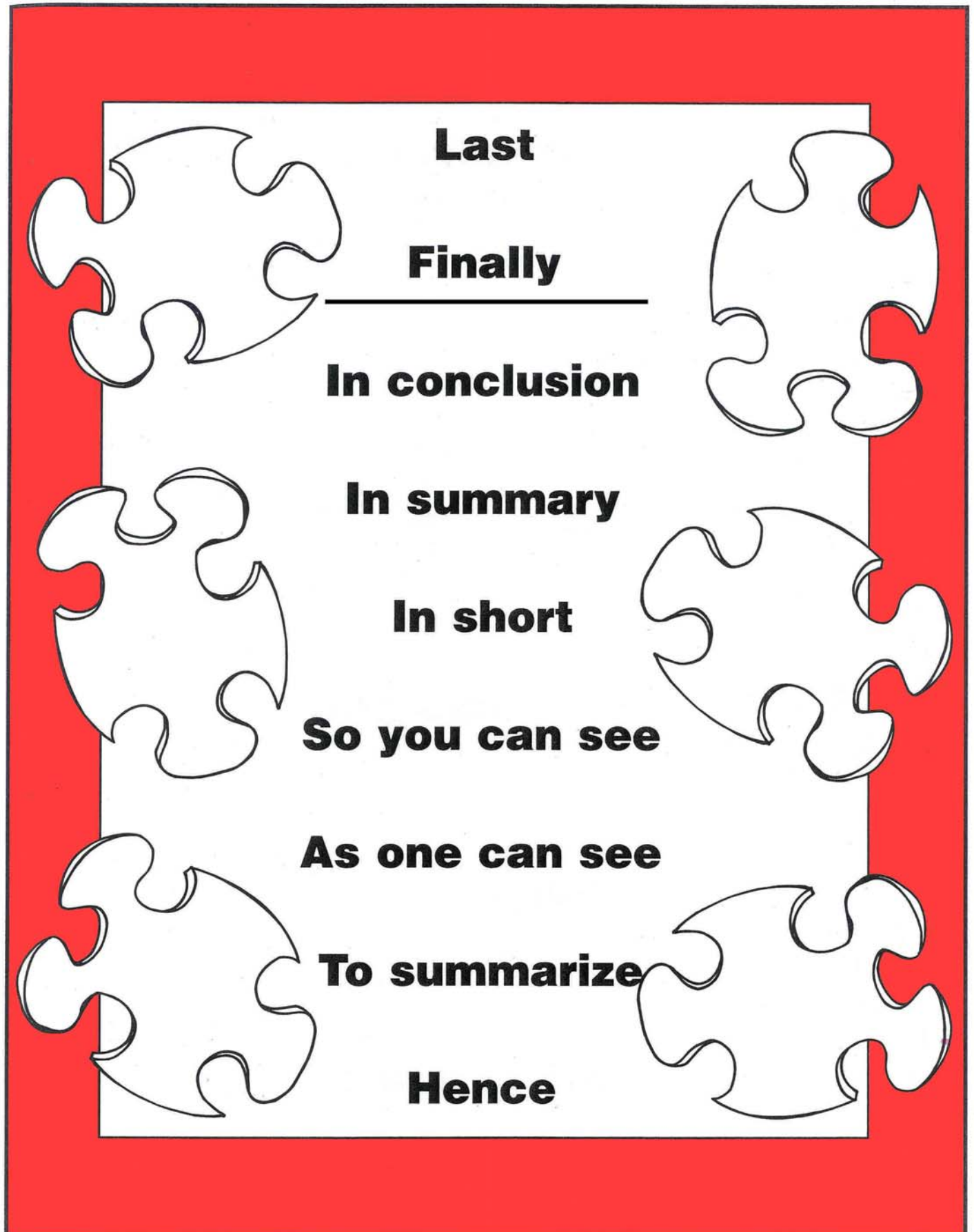
Color the border of this poster green

Image taken from Four Square Writing Method for Grades 1-3 by Gould & Gould, p. 53



Color the border of this poster yellow.

Image taken from Four Square Writing Method for Grades 1-3 by Gould & Gould, p. 54



Color the border of this poster red.

Image taken from *Four Square Writing Method for Grades 1-3* by Gould & Gould, p. 55

To begin with

We get presents at Christmas.

Detail: They are under the tree.

In addition

We spend time with our family at Christmas.

Detail: We have a great

Christmas dinner together.

My favorite holiday is
Christmas .

Also

My family and I put up decorations at Christmas.

Detail: We hang a wreath on the
front door.

Feeling Sentence:

I love the Christmas holiday.

Step 5c: Writing a Paragraph

(Taking it off the “Step 5b” Four-Square organizer)

My favorite holiday is Christmas.

To begin with, we get presents at Christmas. They are under the tree.

In addition, we spend time with our family at Christmas. We have a great Christmas dinner together.

Also, my family and I put up decorations at Christmas. We hang a wreath on the front door. I love the Christmas holiday.

Presents

Family

My favorite holiday is
Christmas .

Decorations

On Christmas we open presents, get
together with family, and put up
decorations.

Presents

- candy
- toys
- under the tree or in a stocking

Family

- eat a special dinner
- visit relatives
- open presents together

My favorite holiday is
Christmas

Decorations

Christmas tree with ornaments

wreath on the door

Christmas lights

On Christmas we open presents, get
together with family, and put up
decorations.

To start with

Presents

- candy
- toys
- under the tree or in a stocking

In addition

Family

- eat a special dinner
- visit relatives
- open presents together

My favorite holiday is
Christmas

Also

Decorations

- Christmas tree with ornaments
- wreath on the door
- Christmas lights

In conclusion

On Christmas we open presents, get
together with family, and put up
decorations.

A Note about Color-Coding

When turning the 4-Square Organizer into a 5-paragraph essay, color-coding provides a helpful visual for many students.

According to research, Organization, Details, and Language occur in the left side of the brain. The Use of Color occurs in the right side of the brain. Writing with colors, then, may be a way to turn writing into a whole-brain activity.

When turning the 4-Square Organizer into a 5-paragraph essay, there are two different avenues for color-coding.

- 1) Color each of the first three squares a different color. These squares represent the 3 supporting details for the main idea of the essay, and they become paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 (as each of these details becomes the main idea of its own paragraph). If the green square equals the green paragraph, and the red square equals the red paragraph, etc., the use of color helps the student to visually see when to indent for a new paragraph. The big picture will show, visually, how each square equals its own paragraph in the essay. (see pages [21](#) – 22 for the 4-Square, and then page 23 for the essay.)
- 2) Color-code according to the jobs of each sentence. (The main idea is one color; the details a second color, the transition words a third color.) In this way, the student will visually see that, consistently in each paragraph, the transition word comes first, the main idea comes second (both in the first sentence of the paragraph), and the details come next. (see page [24](#) for the 4-Square, and page 25 for the essay.)

To start with

Presents

- candy
- toys
- under the tree or in a stocking

In addition

Family

- eat a special dinner
- visit relatives
- open presents together

*Color-coded
by paragraph*

My favorite holiday is
Christmas

In conclusion

Also

Decorations

- Christmas tree with ornaments
- wreath on the door
- Christmas lights

On Christmas we open presents, get
together with family, and put up
decorations.

To start with

Presents

- candy
- toys
- under the tree or in a stocking

In addition

Family

- eat a special dinner
- visit relatives
- open presents together

*Color-coded
by paragraph*

My favorite holiday is
Christmas

In conclusion

Also

Decorations

- Christmas tree with ornaments
- wreath on the door
- Christmas lights

On Christmas we open presents, get
together with family, and put up
decorations.

Christmas

*Color-coded
by paragraph*

My favorite holiday is Christmas.

To start with, we get presents at Christmas.

One of the presents I get is candy. Other presents I get are toys. The presents are under the tree or in a stocking.

In addition, we spend time with our family at Christmas. My family and I eat a special dinner. We also visit our relatives. On Christmas we open presents together.

Also, my family and I put up decorations a few days before Christmas. First, we put up a Christmas tree with ornaments. Next we hang a wreath on the door. Then we hang up Christmas lights.

In conclusion, on Christmas we open presents, get together with family, and put up decorations.

To start with

Presents

- candy
- toys
- under the tree or in a stocking

In addition

Family

- eat a special dinner
- visit relatives
- open presents together

*Color-coded
by job*

My favorite holiday is
Christmas .

In conclusion

Also

Decorations

- Christmas tree with ornaments
- wreath on the door
- Christmas lights

On Christmas we open presents, get
together with family, and put up
decorations.

Christmas

*Color-coded
by job*

My favorite holiday is Christmas.

To start with, we get presents at Christmas.

One of the presents I get is candy. Other presents I get are toys. The presents are under the tree or in a stocking.

In addition, we spend time with our family at Christmas. My family and I eat a special dinner. We also visit our relatives. On Christmas we open presents together.

Also, my family and I put up decorations a few days before Christmas. First, we put up a Christmas tree with ornaments. Next we hang a wreath on the door. Then we hang up Christmas lights.

In conclusion, on Christmas we open presents, get together with family, and put up decorations.

Student Examples (Grade 3)

Student	About the Student	About the Essay	Page
<u>1</u>	Slow worker	Notice the first draft – changed colors correctly but no indenting. Colors made it visually easier to indent for final draft.	27 – 29
<u>2</u>	Learning disability, poor handwriting	His first draft is the first time he has put a period at the end of every sentence. Graph paper used to help him with writing.	30 – 33
<u>3</u>	Learning disability	Progressed from modeling, to guiding, to student working independently. Huge confidence builder.	34 – 35
<u>4</u>	Learning disability, difficulty w/focusing	Modeled writing the paragraph for first square, independent after that. Concluding paragraph broken into 3 sentences.	36 – 37
<u>5</u>	Slow worker	Changed colors for new paragraphs, but didn't indent. The colors were a scaffolding step toward paragraphing.	38 – 40
<u>6</u>	Learning disability	Low comprehension so depends on step-by-step procedure. Colors helped. Checking one sentence at a time helped.	41
<u>7</u>	Autistic	Interesting that he did not write from a first person point of view. Wrote about what “people” or “you” like to do on Christmas.	42 – 43
<u>8</u>	Average 3 rd grade level	Solid example.	44
<u>9</u>	Learning disability	Depends on step-by-step procedure. Checking one sentence at a time helped. Chose to personalize info in first square.	45 – 46
<u>10</u>	Slow worker	Solid example.	47
<u>11</u>	Average 3 rd grade level	First copy – some trouble with paragraphing, did not notice lack of periods even though complete sentences.	48 – 49
<u>12</u>	Poor handwriting	Used graph paper for final copy to help with handwriting.	50 – 52

To Start with

1 Presents ✓

2 • Candy ✓

3 • Clothes ✓

4 • under tree or in
a stocking

In addition

Family ✓

✓ • eat a special dinner

✓ • visit relatives

✓ • open presents
together

My favorite holiday is

Christmas

~~Also~~

Decorations ✓

✓ • Christmas tree with
ornaments

✓ • wreath on the door

• Christmas lights

~~Finally~~
On Christmas

we open presents, get
together with family,
and put up decorations.

Writing
Holiday Essay

Student 1
(first draft)

Dec. 5, 2002

Christmas

X My favorite holiday is
Christmas.

X To start with, ^{I get presents.} I get candy
for Christmas when I sit with my
family. I get clothes for Christmas
because I like clothes. I get presents
under the tree or in a stocking.

In addition, ~~me and my family~~
~~eat a special dinner~~ my family and I
have fun together. We eat a special
dinner. My family ~~goes~~ goes
to visit relatives. We ~~are~~ open
presents together at Christmas.

X Also, My family ~~is~~ decorates around
the house. We put ornaments on
the Christmas tree. My family
puts a wreath on the door.

We hang Christmas lights
outside. In conclusion, on Christmas
we open presents, get together
with families and put up decorations.

writing

Holiday essay

Student 1

(final draft)

Dec 6, 02

Christmas

X My favorite holiday is Christmas.

X To start with, I get presents. I get candy for Christmas when I sit with my family. I get clothes for Christmas because I like clothes. I get presents under the tree or in a stocking.

X In addition, my family and I have fun together. We eat a special dinner. My family goes to visit relatives. We open presents together at Christmas.

X Also, my family decorates around the house. We put ornaments on the Christmas tree. My family puts a wreath on the door. We hang Christmas lights outside.

X In conclusion, on Christmas we open presents, get together with family, and put up decorations.

To start with

Presents ✓

- canby ✓
- toys ✓
- under tree or in a stocking.

In addition.

family ✓

- eat a special dinner
- visit relatives
- open presents to gether.

My favorite holiday is

Christmas.

Also

decorations

- christmas tree with ornaments
- wreath on the door
- christmas lights.

Finally in conclusion

on Christmas

we open presents

get to gether with

family and put

up decorations.

Writing Holiday ESSay

Student 2 (first draft)

Dec-5, 2008

First draft - mostly independently (some guidance). * This is the first time he has put a period at the end of every sentence!

green
red
blue

Christmas

My favorite holiday is Christmas.

To start with ~~at~~ my brother and I open presents together. You usually ~~we~~ get candy. We always get toys. We always get ~~toys~~ in our stocking or under the Christmas tree.

XII) additionn, ~~My family and I go to my grandmas.~~ ~~We~~ ~~at~~ ~~mo~~ and my family do lots of fun things together. We always eat a big dinner. I always go to my grammas. When I go to my grammas we open presents together.

* we
put
up

XI) Also, a few ~~the~~ days before Christmas ~~dec~~ decorations. My dad and I put up the tree with ornaments. My Ne ~~at~~ Star neighbors have a wreath on the door. On the Christmas tree

Christmas

My favorite holiday is Christmas.

To start with, my brother and I open presents together. Usually we get candy. We always get toys. We always get toys in our stocking or under the Christmas tree.

In addition, my family and I do lots of fun things together. We always eat a big dinner. My family always goes to

my grandma's. When I go to my
grandma's we open presents
together. Also, a few days
before Christmas we put up
decorations. My Dad and I put
up the tree with ornaments.
My next door neighbors have a
wreath on the door. On the
Christmas tree we put up
Christmas lights.

In conclusion, on
Christmas we open presents,
get together with family, and
put up decorations.

Start with

1 presents ✓

2 candy ✓

3 toys ✓

4 under the tree ✓

My favorite holiday is

Christmas

Also

1 decorations

2 christmas tree ornaments

3 christmas lights

4 angel on the door

In addition

Student 3

1 family ✓

2 visit my relatives ✓

3 open presents together ✓

4 eat a christmas dinner ✓

In conclusion,

On Christmas we open presents, spend time with my family, and put up decorations.

Writing Holiday

Student 3

Dec. 5, 2002

Christmas

green
red
blue

is My favorite holiday
Christmas.

modeled

To start with, we get presents
on Christmas. We get candy in our
stockings. Some presents are toys.
Presents are under the tree.

guided

In addition we do fun
stuff together with our family.
I visit my relatives.
We open our presents
together. Together we eat
a Christmas dinner.

done
independently
from here
on

Also we put up decorations.
We put the ornaments
on the Christmas tree. Then
we put up Christmas lights
on. We put an angel
on the door.

This was
a huge
confidence-
builder for
her.

3/4 of the
way through
she said,
"This is easy!"

In conclusion, on Christmas
we open presents, spend time
with my family, and put
up decorations.

To start with

1 Presents ✓

2 • candy ✓

3 • toys ✓

4 • under tree or in
a stocking ✓

My favorite holiday is

Christmas

In addition

1 Family ✓

2 • eat a special dinner ✓

3 • visit relatives ✓

4 • open presents ✓
together

Student 4

Also

1 Decorations ✓

2 • Christmas tree with
ornaments ✓

3 • wreath on the door ✓

4 • christmas lights ✓

In conclusion

on Christmaswe open presents,get together withfamily, and putup decorations.

Writing Holiday Essay Dec 5, 2002

Student 4

Christmas

My favorite Holiday is
Christmas.

To start with, my family
celebrates Christmas by opening presents.
One of the presents is candy. Some
presents are toys. The presents are under
the tree.

x In addition, my family gets
together at Christmas. We eat a special
dinner call a fest. We visit are
relatives to eat are fest. My family
opens are presents together.

x Also, my family ^{puts} pools up the
Decoratins in my house. We pool
Odaments on my Christmas tree.
I pool up my wreath on the door.
I and my sister pool up the
Christmas lights.

x In conclusion on Christmas
we open presents. We get together
with are famly. Then we put up decorathing.

green
red
blue

done
independently
from here
on ↓

chose to
break the
concluding
sentence
into 3.

Mead

To start with

1. ✓ presents

2. ✓ Candy

3. ✓ toys

4. ✓ Under the tree or
in a stocking

In addition

1. ✓ Family

2. ✓ eat a special dinner

3. ✓ visit relatives

4. ✓ Open presents together

My favorite holiday is

Christmas

Also

Decorations

- Christmas tree with ornaments
- Wreath on the door
- Christmas lights

In conclusion

On Christmas we open
presents, get together
with family, and put
up decorations,

Writing

Student 5 (first draft)

Holiday Essay

Dec. 5, 2002

Christmas, Christmas

X My favorite holiday is Christmas.
X To start with, every year I get presents. I get candy, and also I get toys. I get toys in stockings and under the tree. In addition, I spend time with my family.

In addition, My family and ~~me~~ spend time together. We eat a special dinner. Also visit relatives. Then we open presents together! Also, we put up decorations. Next we put up the Christmas tree with ornaments. then the wreath on the door. After the lights. On Christmas we open presents, get together with family, and put up decorations.

First draft
(independently)

To work on:

- How to start a new paragraph

["Also visit relatives."
"Then the wreath on the door." → capital at beginning of sentence, putting a subject & predicate in sentence

- "my family and me" → and "I"

Dec. 13, 2002

Christmas

X My favorite holiday is Christmas.
X To start with, every year I get presents.
I get candy. Also I get toys. I get toys in stocking and under the tree.

X In Addition, my family and I spend time together. We eat a special dinner together. We open presents together. Also we visit relatives.

X Also, we put up decorations. Next we put up the Christmas tree with ornaments. Then we put up the wreath on the door. Last we put up the lights.

X In conclusion, on Christmas we open presents, get together with family and put up decorations.

green
red
blue

Christmas

x My favorite holiday is Christmas.

x To start with, I get presents at Christmas.

Some presents are toys. I get candy in my stocking. My presents are in a stocking or under my tree.

x In addition My family does something special together. We eat a special dinner. We watch a Christmas parade. We open Christmas presents.

x we put decorations up for Christmas. We get a Christmas tree and put ornaments on it. We put a wreath on the door. we put up Christmas lights.

x On Christmas we open presents, get together with family, and we put up decorations.

first draft

one-on-one
guidance

independently

writing
Holiday
Essay

12/12/02

15

Student 7

age 8
Christmas

My favorite holiday is
Christmas.

To start with people like
to open presents. People like to
eat lots of candy on Christmas
day. After kids unwrap their pres-
ents they like to play with their
toys. Everybody can find their
presents under the tree or in a
stocking.

In addition, people can
spend time with their family.
When you go to your aunt and
uncle's house you can eat a special
dinner. You can visit another relative
if you have more relatives. If
you have not opened your presents
yet, you can open them toget-
her with your family.

Also when you put your
tree up on the first day
of Dec. (or a few days later) you
can put ornaments on it. A few days

later you can put your Christmas wreath on the door. When you decorate your tree you can put up Christmas lights.

In conclusion on Christmas we open presents, get together with your family, and put up decorations.

Writing

Student 8

Holiday Essay

December 12, 2002

Christmas

My favorite holiday is Christmas. To start with we get presents on Christmas. Sometimes we get candy in our stockings. We get toys under the tree and in our stocking.

In addition, my family gets together at my house. We eat a special dinner. We visit my mom's parents and dad's parents. My brother, my parents, and I open our presents together.

Also, we put up decorations. On the first day of December we put our tree and ornaments. We hang a wreath on our door. I help my dad put up the Christmas lights.

In conclusion, On Christmas we open presents, get together with family, and put up decorations.

Dec. 5, 2002

Student 1 (first draft)

Christmas

My favorite holiday is Christmas.

To start with I get presents for Christmas every year. Sometimes for Christmas I get candy.

Every year on Christmas I get toys from my family or from Santa the Elves and from Mrs. Clause. On Christmas we have presents under the Christmas tree or in our stockings.

In addition me and my family spend time together.

Next we eat a special dinner.

Last Christmas I want to visit my relatives. Every Christmas me and my family open presents together.

Also we put up decorations. Every Christmas me and my family put ornaments on the Christmas tree. Then I hang up the wreath on the door. →

Done completely independently.
(First draft)

He chose to personalize this part.

Then a week before Christmas
we put up Christmas light.

Finally on Christmas we
open presents, get together with my
family, and put up decorations.

Christmas

X My favorite holiday is Christmas.

X First we open presents. Some of them are cloths. Most of them are toys. My mom puts the presents under the tree.

X Also my family and I hangout. We eat special dinner every year. I get to see my grandparents. We open presents together.

X In addition my mom and I decorate the house. We put ornaments on the tree. We put a huge wreath on the door. Also we put up shiny lights.

X As one can see on Christmas we open presents, do things with family, and

put up decorations.

Dec. 5, 2002

Student 11 (first draft)

Independent
work

-First
draft

Christmas

My favorite holiday is Christmas. To start with, I get presents for Christmas. One of the presents I get is candy and toys I find under the tree or in a stocking.

Did
not
notice
lack of
periods.

In addition, my family comes over ~~and we~~ eat a special dinner. Then we go to visit relatives. We open presents together. Also, when we get home we put up decorations. On Dec. 1st we put up a tree. Next we put a wreath on the door. Finally we got the lights up.

In conclusion, On Christmas we open presents, ^{get} together with our family, and put up decorations.

Dec. 6, 2002

Edited
with
teacher.
Final
copy.

Christmas

My favorite holiday is Christmas.

To start with, I get presents for Christmas. Some of the presents I get are candy and toys I find under the tree or in 4 stockings.

In addition, my family comes over. We eat a very special dinner. Then we go to visit relatives. We open presents together.

Also, when we get home we put up decorations. On Dec 1st we put up a tree. Next we put a wreath on the door. Finally we got the lights up.

In conclusion, on Christmas we open presents, get together with our family, and put up decorations.

Writing

Holiday Essay

Ornaments

Wreath

Student 12 (first draft)

Dec. 5, 2002

Christmas

My favorite holiday is
Christmas.

To start with, I get presents on
Christmas. One of the presents I get
is candy. I get toys too. The
toys I get are under a tree.

In addition I do things with my
family. I eat special dinner.
I visit relatives. Mean my family
open presents together.

Also we put up decorations.
My family puts up the Christmas
tree. We have a wreath on the door.
I put up the Christmas lights.

In conclusion on Christmas we open
presents together with family and
put up decorations.

Christmas

My favorite holiday is Christmas.

To start with I get presents on Christmas. One of the presents I get is candy. I get toys too. The toys I get are under a tree.

In addition I do things with my family. I eat a special dinner. I visit my relatives.

my family and I open presents together.

Also we put up decorations. My Family and I puts the Christmas tree. We have a wreath on the door. I put Christmas lights.

In conclusion on Christmas we open presents, get together with family, and put up decorations.

Modeling the Four Square Writing Method to Grade 3



The Recipe for a Student-Written 5-Paragraph Essay

1. Teacher models the 4-Square (Thanksgiving)
2. Teacher guides students to fill out 4-Square (class-created) (Christmas)
3. Teacher models writing the essay (Thanksgiving)
4. Teacher guides students to begin their essay (Christmas), and lets them finish it independently.

Thanksgiving models follow.

To begin with

Food

- Turkey and Stuffing
- Cranberry Sauce
- Pumpkin Pie

In addition

School Play

- Pilgrims from the Mayflower
- Indians who lived in America
- A feast of friendship

My favorite holiday is
Thanksgiving.

Another reason

Family

- Say what we are thankful for
- Watch football
- Go to see a movie together

As one can see

On Thanksgiving we eat a lot
of food, watch the school
play, and do fun things with
my family.

Thanksgiving

My favorite holiday is Thanksgiving.

To begin with, we eat a lot of food. We have a big turkey with stuffing. We also have cranberry sauce. For dessert we eat pumpkin pie.

In addition, we see a school play that is about the first Thanksgiving. In the play, there are pilgrims from the Mayflower. There are also Indians who lived in America. They have a feast of friendship.

Another reason I like Thanksgiving is because we have a special time with family. We say what we are thankful for. We have fun watching football together. We also go to see a movie together.

As one can see, on Thanksgiving we eat a lot of food, watch the school play, and do fun things with my family.