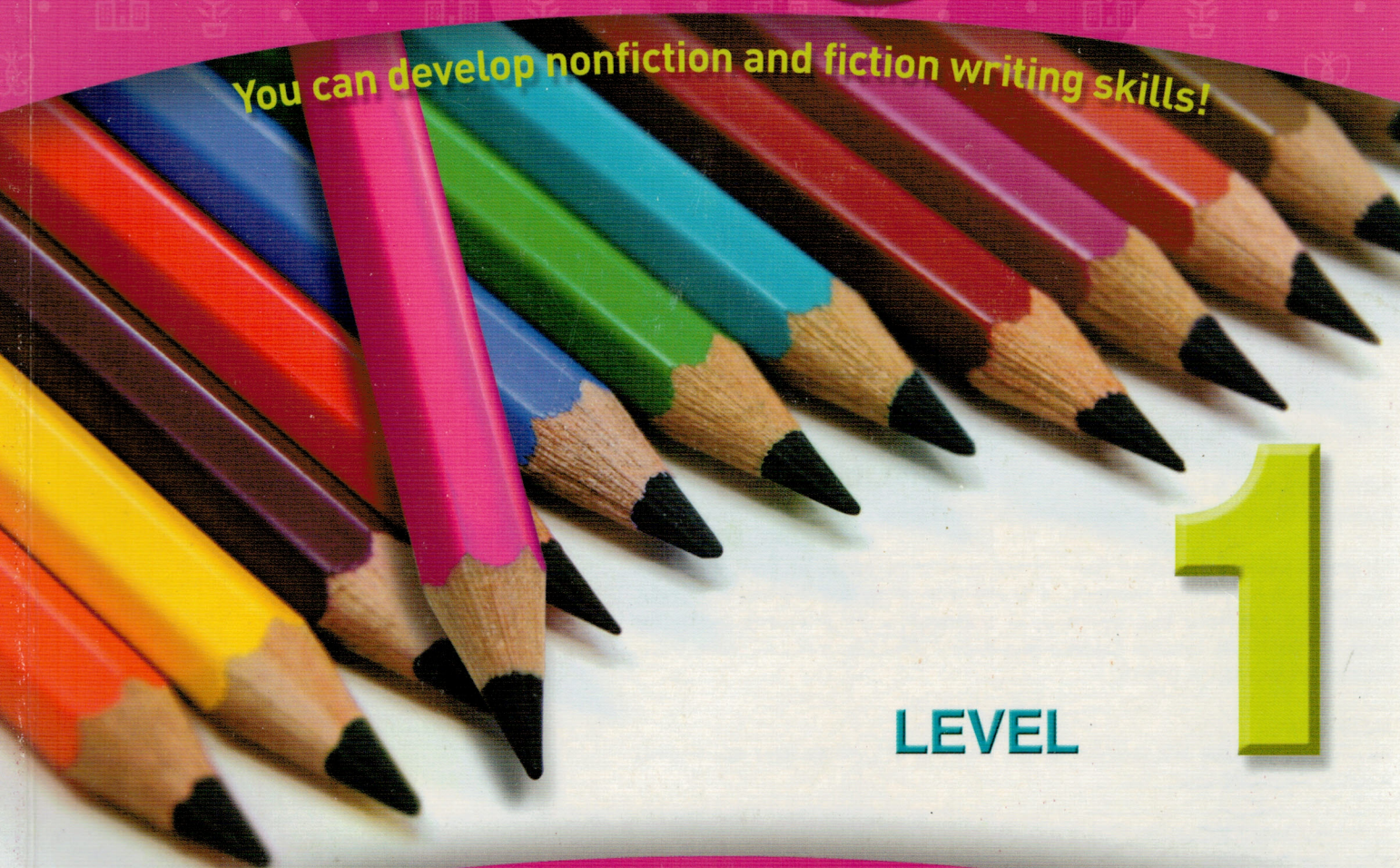


Exploring Writing PLUS⁺

You can develop nonfiction and fiction writing skills!



LEVEL

1

Teacher Created Materials

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CONTENTS

Unit 1 Narrative Nonfiction

LESSON 1	Trees for Peace	04
	Writing Focus Gathering Information Grammar Focus Nouns	
LESSON 2	All the King's Horses	12
	Writing Focus Conducting an Interview Grammar Focus Adjectives	
LESSON 3	Hotshot on In-Line Skates	20
	Writing Focus Using Third-Person Point of View Grammar Focus Verbs: present simple	

Unit 2 Fiction and Poetry

LESSON 4	Ready to Fly	28
	Writing Focus Including Conflict Grammar Focus Past Simple of the verb <i>be</i>	
LESSON 5	Cat and Rat	36
	Writing Focus Creating a World of "Once Upon a Time" Grammar Focus Verbs: past simple	
LESSON 6	The Dog and His Shadow	44
	Writing Focus Using Animals as Characters Grammar Focus Plural Nouns	

Unit 3 Persuasive

LESSON 7 **The Best Vacation** 52

Writing Focus Using Visuals to Make a Better Letter

Grammar Focus Modals: can/could

LESSON 8 **Wrestling Is Wrong** 60

Writing Focus Using Writing to Make a Difference

Grammar Focus Modals: must, should

LESSON 9 **You'll Shriek for Shrek 2** 68

Writing Focus Using Writing to Persuade Readers

Grammar Focus Capitalization

Unit 4 Expository

LESSON 10 **Elephant Polo** 76

Writing Focus Using End Punctuation Effectively

Grammar Focus Adverbs

LESSON 11 **A Very Big Bird?** 84

Writing Focus Combining Sentences

Grammar Focus Linking Words: and, but

LESSON 12 **The Sound of Old Music** 92

Writing Focus Writing Sensory Descriptions

Grammar Focus Comparing with Adjectives: -er/-est

Trees for Peace

The Nobel **Peace** Prize is the most famous award in the world. It is given out every year to someone who has worked for peace.

In 2004, the prize went to Wangari Maathai. She is a woman from Kenya. That is a nation in Africa. Maathai is the

first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Maathai wanted to make life better for poor women in Kenya. She had women plant trees to make the land greener. More than 10 million trees were planted. The trees are good for the **environment**. The wood can be used to make fires for cooking. And the women got paid for planting trees. This helped them take care of their children.

Today, Kenya's forests are in better shape. And poor women can earn money. This is all thanks to Maathai.

Wangari Maathai proudly holds her Nobel Peace Prize.



JOHN MCCONNICO/AP PHOTO



WILLIAM CAMPBELL/CORBIS

Some women in Kenya hold the trees that they will plant. Trees are good for the environment.

Reader's Response

• Answer the questions.

1. How often is the Nobel Peace Prize given out?

2. What award did Wangari Maathai win in 2004?

3. Do you think that Wangari Maathai deserves the prize? Explain why you think that.

4. What did Wangari Maathai do for the poor women in Kenya?

5. How has planting trees helped the people of Kenya?

6. Do you think the writer chose a good title for the story? Explain why you think that.

Words to Know

- **peace:**
a state of freedom
- **award:**
a prize
- **plant:**
to put a tree in the ground
- **environment:**
surroundings, setting

Writer's Response

- Summarize each part of the story.

Paragraph 1 Background knowledge on the topic

Paragraph 2 Description of a person

Paragraph 3 Contribution of the person

Paragraph 4 Conclusion

Writing Focus

Gathering Information

Finding good information is a good start to writing a great story. A good place to start is the library, where you can use a lot of books, newspapers, magazines, and the Internet.



Choose the sentence that does not give a fact.

1. (1) Gandhi was born in India.
- (2) Gandhi went to a college in London.
- (3) Gandhi never won the Nobel Peace Prize.
- (4) Gandhi is the most respected leader of all.

2. (1) Michael Jordan always set his goals high.
- (2) Michael Jordan played for the Chicago Bulls.
- (3) Michael Jordan is the best professional basketball player.
- (4) Michael Jordan also starred in the movie *Space Jam*.



Read *Trees for Peace* and find sentences that give facts.



Look at the following information about Martin Luther King, Jr. Then write four complete sentences using the information.

1. born in 1929

2. great political leader

3. promoted nonviolence

4. Nobel Peace Prize in 1964

Grammar Focus

Nouns

Nouns are the naming words in the sentences. A noun names a person, a place, or a thing. A noun can be countable or uncountable.

Person	The mechanic is taking a rest. The children are sitting at the table.
Place	The lake is huge. The store is closed.
Thing	Is the box heavy? The building looks very old.



Circle the noun in each group.

1. hiker tired up
2. dentist clean buy
3. old wood wanted
4. house never happily
5. carrot far rocky
6. sits pretty town
7. behind girls often
8. shouted special king
9. at river small
10. angry little boy



Fill in the blank with a word from the box and rewrite the sentence.

1. Trees are good for the _____.

→ _____

2. Wood can be used to make _____.

→ _____

3. Wangari Maathai had women plant _____ in Africa.

→ _____

4. The _____ got paid for planting trees.

→ _____

5. Today, Kenya's _____ are in better shape.

→ _____

6. In 2004, the _____ went to Wangari Maathai.

→ _____

7. The Nobel Peace Prize is the most famous _____ in the

_____.

→ _____

prize
women

trees
forests

award
fires

world
environment

Be the Writer



Write a biographical narrative about Mother Teresa who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. Find information about Mother Teresa and include the information in your writing.



Useful Words and phrases

- | | | | |
|--------|-----------|----------|---------------------|
| ■ won | ■ respect | ■ nun | ■ was born in |
| ■ love | ■ charity | ■ famous | ■ Nobel Peace Prize |

● Prewrite.

Paragraph 1

Introduce the person or give background knowledge on the topic.

Paragraph 2

Describe one event in the life of the person.

Paragraph 3

Describe the contribution of the person.

Paragraph 4

Conclude with your final remarks on the person.

● Write.

	Title:
●	
●	
●	

Checklist

Writing

- ☐ The beginning introduces the person and gives background knowledge.
- ☐ I only used facts to describe the events in the person's life.
- ☐ The end tells how I feel about the person.
- ☐ The end tells how I feel about the subject.

Grammar

- ☐ *Nouns* are used correctly.

Conventions

- ☐ Each sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with the correct end mark.
- ☐ All words are spelled correctly.