



www.qualitycomesinwriting.com

Dear Educator,

The BIC QUALITY COMES IN WRITING educational program created for BIC in cooperation with Lifetime Learning Systems®, Inc. is designed to help students in grades 4 through 6 improve their writing and communication skills.

An engaging component of the program is the writing contest. (See the rules and entry form in this package for complete details.) This year, students are asked to write an essay answering one of three questions:

- If you could interview someone, who would it be and what would you ask?
- If you could have a super power, what would it be and how would you use it?
- If you woke up one morning to find that you had switched places with someone, who would it be, and what would happen?

To help your students think about these contest topics and spark their imaginations, we have created optional warm-up activities. **{Note:** These suggested activities are not part of the contest. The contest questions are noted above and on the contest entry form.}

- As a class, brainstorm a list of people students would like to meet. Pop stars and athletes will probably be high on the list. Encourage students to consider other people as well, such as historic figures, fictional characters, people in the news, or people in your community. Have students choose a person and write about what they would do and discuss if they spent an afternoon together.
- Have students create a comic strip about a character with a super power (they can be the character). Students should name their character and illustrate an adventure or a day in the life of the character. Provide students with large sheets of drawing paper folded into 6 or 8 squares in which they can draw their comic sequence.
- Write a list of people/professions on the board, such as: adult, 3-year-old child, athlete, musician, nurse, president, firefighter, scientist, bus driver, etc. Have students brainstorm what they think a typical day might be like for the people on the list. Then, have students choose someone they would like to switch places with and describe why.

The program also includes a companion website: www.qualitycomesinwriting.com. The website consists of two areas—one for students, and one for teachers and parents. The BIC Clubhouse contains activities for students, such as spelling bees, paragraphs that have to be put in order to create a story, interactive rebuses, and a printable copy of the poster. The BIC at Home and at School section contains the QUALITY COMES IN WRITING education program that teachers and parents can download and print.

We hope that you, your colleagues, your students, and their parents will find the QUALITY COMES IN WRITING program, website, and essay contest to be valuable additions to your language arts curriculum.

Sincerely,

Maureen Hunter-Bone

Editorial Director

Lifetime Learning Systems®, Inc.

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