INSTRUCTIONAL
STRATEGIES

Text Looping

With text looping, students select words or phrases in a piece of writing. After a piece of text is selected, it can be used to generate new ideas, elaborate on a prompt, or collaborate with others. As new words and phrases are selected and more writing is composed, the process "loops" and continues.

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Summary

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Procedure

1. Display a writing prompt (creative, narrative, technical, etc.) and ask students to respond in one paragraph of 5-7 sentences.

2. Using the paragraph that they just created, ask students to draw a box around three words or phrases. The number of words or phrases can be modified to suit the lesson. You can also vary the theme based on your objectives, such as key ideas, imagery, verbs, unit vocabulary, etc.

3. Ask students to compose a new paragraph using one of the three words or phrases that they boxed in their initial paragraph.

4. Repeat the boxing and rewriting process from steps 2 and 3. Writing the paragraph three times is an effective use of this strategy, but feel free to continue this process as needed.

5. As a twist, students can switch papers with a peer after writing each paragraph and use the words and phrases already boxed by the student as inspiration for the continued composition.

Based on writing strategies found at http://writing.ku.edu/prewriting-strategies