

Mini Lesson: Personal Narrative 1 (31) Question Marks

Standards: CC1.4.1.M Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events.
CC1.4.1.R Demonstrate a grade-appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

- Capitalize dates and names of people.
 - Use end punctuation; use commas in dates and words in series.
 - Spell words drawing on common spelling patterns, phonemic awareness, and spelling conventions.
- CC1.1.1.B Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.
- Recognize the distinguishing features of a sentence.

Materials:

- Chart paper
- Marker
- Optional: 3 x 5 cards with a question mark on one side and a period on the other

Connection: "Yesterday we practiced giving readers a signal to pause by using a period. Today we are going to see how writers use a different signal—a question mark—to ask the reader to respond or answer."

Teach (modeling): "Writers use periods at the end of complete sentences that are telling us something. When we write a sentence that is asking something, we need to have a question mark at the end. The question mark tells readers they need to respond."

"Today I am going to write questions that you and your partner will answer. Watch as I write asking sentences that start with a capital letter and end with a question mark."

(Write): What is your favorite animal? Where is your favorite place to sit and write?
Who is a kind friend to you?

"First graders, please turn and talk to your partner about my questions. What did I put at the end of a question? What is the purpose of the question?"

ELD: Teacher teaches a gesture (shrugging shoulders) or uses a visual of someone shrugging shoulders to accompany introduction of question mark.

Active Engagement: "Writers, today we are going to listen for asking sentences and telling sentences. Thumbs up if the sentence is an asking sentence."

(optional variation- Use 3 x 5 cards with a question mark on one side and a period on the other. Students raise the card and show the correct punctuation mark.)

Read sentences aloud.

We see zebras.

Can you see the zebras?

Where are the hippos?

Hippos hide in the water.

Can elephants swim?

Elephants can swim.

"Turn and talk and ask your partner an asking sentence."

Bridge to Independent Practice:

"Before you begin writing today with your partner, you are going to be a detective. In your anthology, find a page with an asking sentence that begins with a capital letter and ends with a question mark. Show your partner this page and have them check to make sure it is an asking question that uses a question mark. Take turns."

"In your writing today if you are asking a question, remember to use a capital letter at the beginning and a question mark at the end of your sentence."

Work with students to reread writing for correct punctuation marks. Review what makes a complete sentence with students who need it. Students who are ready can discuss using questions for non-fiction writing.

Closure:

Students share sentences with question marks, either in their writing or from the anthology.