**Class Title:** Blue/ Orange Story Explorers

**Teacher Name:** Kari Lee

**Class Day**: Friday

**Class Size:** 20

**Class Cost:** $15

**Ages or color group served:** Blue/ Orange

**What level is this class:** Level 2

**Prerequisites:** Students will need to be able to read and write fairly independently.

**Graduation Requirements:** N/A

**Homework Requirements:** There wil be homework each week.

**Class Description:**

By the end of the course, students will understand how to write complete sentences, use proper punctuation, and progress to constructing paragraphs and short stories. The focus will be on creativity, grammar, and structure.

**Week 1:**

\* Introducing the concept of sentences: What is a sentence?

\* Discuss the importance of capitalization and punctuation marks (focus on periods).

\* Activity: Sentence Building Game – Students will create simple sentences using pre-written words on index cards.

**Week 2:**

\* Define and explain the subject (who/what) and predicate (action).

\* Give examples of sentences with clear subjects and predicates.

\* Activity: Match Subjects and Predicates – Use sentence halves to create correct sentences.

**Week 3:**

\* Discuss the different types of punctuation at the end of a sentence (period, question mark, exclamation point).

\* Practice identifying which punctuation to use based on sentence type (statement, question, exclamation).

\* Activity: Punctuation Practice – Convert sentences with missing punctuation into correctly punctuated sentences.

**Week 4:**

\* Explain how conjunctions connect ideas (and = similar, but = contrasting).

\* Demonstrate how to combine sentences using "and" or "but."

\* Activity: Sentence Combining – Give students simple sentences to connect using "and" or "but."

\* Homework: Write 3 pairs of sentences, combining them with "and" or "but."

**Week 5:**

\* Explain the use of commas to separate items in a list and before conjunctions.

\* Discuss comma placement between adjectives in sentences (e.g., "It was a sunny, warm day").

\* Activity: Create a shopping list sentence using commas (e.g., “I need apples, bananas, and oranges”).

**Week 6:**

\* Review concepts covered so far: sentence structure, punctuation, conjunctions, and commas.

\* Activity: Sentence Scramble – Unscramble words to create complete sentences.

\* Practice writing longer sentences using "and," "but," and commas.

**Week 7:**

\* Explain what a paragraph is and why it starts with a topic sentence.

\* Give examples of topic sentences and explain how they introduce the main idea.

\* Activity: Topic Sentence Match – Students are given a topic and must choose or write a suitable topic sentence.

**Week 8:**

\* Discuss how supporting sentences provide more information about the topic sentence.

\* Give examples of how to add details to expand on a topic.

\* Activity: Paragraph Builder – Provide students with a topic sentence and have them write 3 supporting sentences.

**Week 9:**

\* Discuss the role of a concluding sentence in summarizing the paragraph.

\* Provide examples of concluding sentences.

\* Activity: Write a Paragraph – Students will write a 4-sentence paragraph with a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a conclusion.

**Week 10:**

\* Review paragraph structure and practice writing full paragraphs.

\* Discuss transitions between sentences and how ideas connect.

\* Activity: Guided Writing – In small groups, students write a paragraph together, adding details and working collaboratively.

**Week 11:**

\* Explain the basic structure of a story and the importance of having a clear beginning, middle, and end.

\* Discuss characters, setting, and plot.

\* Activity: Story Starters – Provide students with story prompts and have them write a short beginning and middle.

**Week 12:**

\* Students will complete their short stories, incorporating all the elements they've learned (sentences, paragraphs, punctuation, etc.).

\* Allow time for editing and peer feedback.

\* Activity: Story Sharing – Students read their stories aloud and discuss what they enjoyed writing.