

*SRSD Informative/Expository Writing Model using the POW+TIDE Pneumonic*  
(Using the 4<sup>th</sup> grade readworks.org passage “Rain Forest Rescue”)

**Teaching Plan:**

Day 1: Assign students a “dry write” with little to no support to get a true idea of what they already know.

Day 2: Score the essays and teach students the POW+TIDE

P-Pull apart the prompt

O-Organize my notes

W-Write and say more

+

T-Topic Sentence

ID-Important Detail

E-Ending

Day 3: Show students an exemplar essay and color code it/score it/put it in the graphic organizer using “caveman talk.”

(green for topic sentence, yellow for important details, red for ending)

Day 4: Show them a weak example and color code and score the weak example.

Day 5: Re-read the text with a teacher think aloud and look at the new prompt.

Collaborate using the graphic organizer and then do a collaborative write.

“Rain Forest Rescue”

Prompt: Why did the Brazilian government choose to place the area of land mentioned in this passage under its environmental protection?

Alternative prompt: What positive outcomes does the article state will result from this conservation initiative?

Strong Example:

Brazil has placed an area of the Amazon rain forest under its government’s protection. Environmentalists state that this area of the world is very diverse with large variety of plants and animals that will now be safe. Before this preservation, deforestation was destroying this region at an alarming rate! The president of Conservation International, Russell Mittermeier said, “If any tropical rain forest on Earth remains intact a century from now, it will be this portion.” When the Brazilian government made this area of rain forest off limits to the public it is helping to stop deforestation, promote biodiversity and conserve rain forests.

Weak Example:

The Brazilian government chose to place the area of land mentioned in this passage under its environmental protection. It preserves the forest for the future. Officials were especially concerned about preserving the forests and the biodiversity and the deforestation. It’s also important that people can see the forests so that they can appreciate the plants and animals. Maybe they will make a movie about it some day.

Some Helpful Websites:

<http://kc.vanderbilt.edu/projectwrite/resources-srsd.html>

<http://pitnerm.blogspot.com/2014/06/srsd-freebies.html>

<http://www.commonothecore.com/2014/06/informative-writing-with-self-regulated.html>

<http://oodlesofteachingfun.blogspot.com/p/srsd-resources.html>

<http://www.gcisd.org/webpages/ldavidson/sixth.cfm?subpage=1239273>

<https://www.readworks.org/>

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/teaching-elementary-school-students-be-effective-writers>