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Annotated Weekly Plan

As you'll see in this walk-through of a week's worth of instruction in the Teaching Guide, Traits Writing provides abundant opportunities to work with the whole class, small groups, and individual students. It also contains opportunities for students to work with their classmates and on their own, ensuring a stimulating, supportive environment in which to learn. Each trait's key quality is covered over a five-day period, which can be extended during the five-day Reality Check between core units.

Unit 4

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Focus Mode: Opinion Writing
Purpose: to construct an argument

The writer:
- states a position clearly and sticks with it.
- offers good, sound reasoning.
- provides solid facts, opinions, and examples.
- reveals weaknesses in other positions.
- uses voice to add credibility and show confidence.

Typical opinion writing formats include advertisements, nominations, editorials, speeches, reviews, and opinion writing essays.

The unit's three traits and key qualities are clearly spelled out in the unit opener.

Each unit focuses on one mode of writing—informative/explanatory, narrative, or opinion writing. Like the traits, these modes are spiraled throughout the program, ensuring students are comfortable writing in all three modes by year's end. Each mode is covered at least two times throughout the year.