

IF YOU'RE LOOKING
FOR **READY-TO-USE**
SENTENCES TO
EXPAND, DON'T MISS
THIS RESOURCE!

WRITING WARMUPS

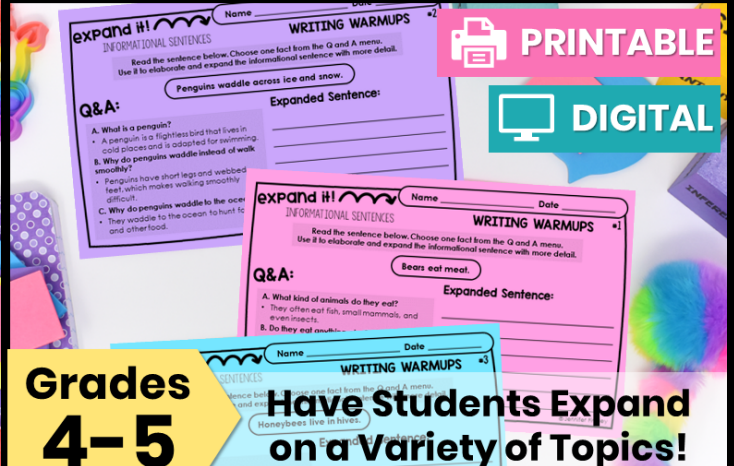
Informational SENTENCE EXPANSION

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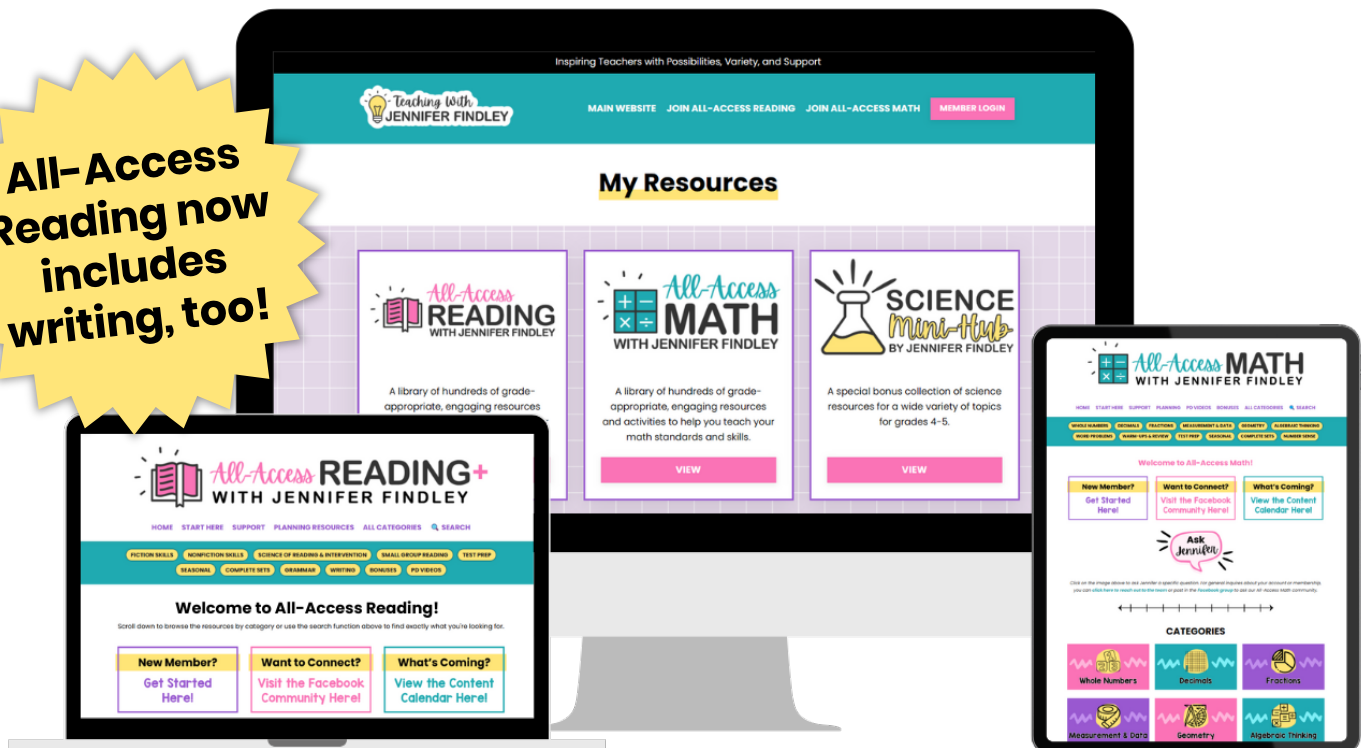
Grades 4-5

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expand it!

INFORMATIONAL SENTENCES

expand the sentence with a DEFINITION

What it does: Tells what something means right in the sentence

Example of Expanding with a Definition:

A predator must be quick and strong.



A predator, **an animal that hunts other animals**, must be quick and strong.

Ways to do it:

- Add a short definition right after the word
- Use commas to set it off
- Start with *which is...* or *that means...*

Try it like this:

- ☐ A _____, a _____, + rest of sentence.
- ☐ A _____, which is a _____, + rest of sentence.

expand it!

INFORMATIONAL SENTENCES

expand the sentence with an EXAMPLE

What it does: Gives one or more examples to explain your idea

Example of Expanding with Examples:

Some root vegetables grow underground.



Some root vegetables, **such as carrots and potatoes**, grow underground.

Ways to do it:

- Use *such as...* or *like...* to list examples

Try it like this:

☐ _____, such as _____ and _____,
+ rest of sentence.

expand it!

INFORMATIONAL SENTENCES

expand the sentence with a REASON OR CAUSE

What it does: Tells why something happens

Example of Expanding with a Reason or Cause:

Whales come to the surface.



Whales come to the surface **because they need to breathe air.**

Ways to do it:

- Use *because*, *since*, or *so that*

Try it like this:

☐ _____ because _____.

☐ Because _____, _____.

expand it!

INFORMATIONAL SENTENCES

expand the sentence with a RESULT OR EFFECT

What it does: Shows what happens next or what the effect is

Example of Expanding with a Result or Effect:

The wind picked up.



The wind picked up,
so the kite flew higher.

Ways to do it:

- Use *so*, *which*, or *helping*...

Try it like this:

- ☐ _____, so _____.
- ☐ _____, which _____.
- ☐ _____, helping _____.

expand it!

INFORMATIONAL SENTENCES

expand the sentence with a FOLLOW-UP DETAIL

What it does: Adds one more connected idea to give the reader extra information

Example of Expanding with a Follow-Up Detail:

Tornadoes spin quickly across the land.



Tornadoes spin quickly across the land **and can destroy buildings in their path.**

Ways to do it:

- Use *and*, *also*, or *even* to add a second, related part
- Keep it close to the main idea

Try it like this:

- ☐ _____ and _____.
- ☐ _____ and can also _____.

expand it!

INFORMATIONAL SENTENCES

expand the sentence with a PROCESS DETAIL

What it does: Explains how something happens or what steps are involved

Example of Expanding with a Process Detail:

Seeds grow
into plants.



Seeds grow into plants **by
sprouting roots, developing
stems, and growing leaves.**

Ways to do it:

- Use *by...* to introduce a list of steps
- Use *after...* or *as...* to show when steps happen

Try it like this:

- ☐ _____ by _____, _____, and _____.
- ☐ _____ after _____.

6 WAYS TO EXPAND AN INFORMATIONAL SENTENCE

Definition - Add what something means

- **Example:** A predator, **an animal that hunts other animals**, must be quick and strong.
- Try: **A** ___, **a** ___, **+ rest of sentence.**

Example - Add specific examples

- **Example:** Some root vegetables, **such as carrots and potatoes**, grow underground.
- Try: ___, **such as** ___ **and** ___, **+ rest of sentence.**

Reason/Cause - Tell why it happens

- **Example:** Whales come to the surface **because they need to breathe air.**
- Try: ___ **because** ___.

Result/Effect - Show what happens next

- **Example:** The wind picked up, **so the kite flew higher.**
- Try: ___, **so** ___.

Follow-Up Detail - Add another connected idea

- **Example:** Tornadoes spin quickly across the land **and can destroy buildings in their path.**
- Try: ___ **and** ___.

Process Detail - Explain steps or how something happens

- **Example:** Seeds grow into plants **by sprouting roots, developing stems, and growing leaves.**
- Try: ___ **by** ___, ___, **and** ___.

WAYS TO EXPAND AN INFORMATIONAL SENTENCE

Definition

- Find a key word in the sentence.
- Add a short definition or description right after it.
- Use commas or parentheses to set it off.

Example

- Think of one or more real examples that fit the sentence.
- Add them using *such as* or *like*.

Reason/Cause

- Ask yourself, "Why does this happen?"
- Add the reason using *because*, *since*, or *so that*.

Result/Effect

- Think about what happens next or what the effect is.
- Add it using *so*, *which*, or *helping*.

Follow-Up Detail

- Add one more idea that connects to the main sentence.
- Use *and*, *also*, or *even* to join your details.

Bonus: Process Detail

- List the steps or describe how something happens.
- Start with *by*, *after*, or *as*, then tell the steps in order.

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