

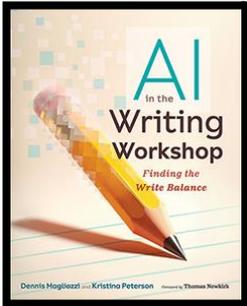
Rethinking the Readers-Writers Workshop in the Age of AI (WRA 2026)

A Chart of Approaches

AI as Writing Partner	Approach
Mentor Text Analysis	Teachers can use AI to help analyze a mentor text for craft moves, providing the teacher with insights to better guide classroom discussions.
Generating Additional Mentor Texts	Teachers can prompt AI to suggest additional examples similar to a successful or favorite mentor text, saving time and expanding resources.
Quick Write Prompts	AI can be used to generate additional quick write prompts for students who struggle to connect with the main prompt, allowing for personalized entry points into writing.
Quick Write Scaffolding	When students struggle to start a quick write, AI can be used to generate a scaffolded approach with guided questions and sentence starters.
Draft Development	AI can provide additional prompts and ideas when students struggle to expand their quick writes into drafts.
Prompt Engineering for Feedback	Students can use DP A approved AI as a writing coach by prompting for specific feedback on their drafts, and aligning AI feedback with rubric criteria.
Zero Draft Development	AI served as a writing partner by providing rubric-based feedback on students' zero drafts, helping them refine their writing with specific suggestions.
Critical Thinking for Feedback	Students can highlight AI feedback in green (useful) and red (questions or confusion), facilitating a deeper discussion in class about the applicability and accuracy of AI-generated suggestions.
Revision	AI can offer specific feedback on the development of drafts and reflect upon it with their teacher to determine the next steps.
Reflective Rubrics	AI's role in the writing process can be documented in reflective rubrics, where students evaluate how AI contributed to their work, what worked, and what didn't, promoting transparency in the use of AI.

AI as Thought Partner	Approach
Critical Thinking	AI can be used as a collaborative partner in the analytical process, helping students think critically about whole-class reads. Students can be encouraged to challenge, develop, and revise AI's responses with their own thinking.
AI-Assisted Discussions	Students can track quotes and their thoughts while reading the class text. Then they can interact with AI during class discussions, using AI-generated content as a springboard for deeper analysis.
AI as Mentor Text	AI-generated essays on a whole-class read can be used as mentor texts, allowing students to critique the output. This exercise can help students understand what makes a strong analysis and how to craft their own essays.
Deep Dive into Class Texts	Students can select quotes to analyze deeply, developing thesis statements and using AI to generate initial essays. Students can critique AI's output, enhancing their analysis by identifying where AI fell short and expanding on its ideas.
Critical Interactions with Class Text	Students can use AI to explore hypothetical scenarios and character motivations. Speculative exercises can deepen student understanding of the class texts.
Reflecting on AI's Role	Students can reflect on how AI influences their understanding and analysis of literary texts. They can note where AI provides valuable insights and where it misses key elements, using this reflection to enhance their critical thinking and analytical skills.
AI as Research Partner	Approach
Brainstorming	SchoolAI's Topic Explorer can be used to help students articulate their research interests and refine their ideas, encouraging students to think critically about their topics and consider different perspectives.
Researching Alongside Perplexity or Gemini	Perplexity AI can help students find reliable sources and develop a deeper understanding of their topics. The tool can provide clear links to the source material, allowing students to verify the information and ensure its accuracy.
Feedback from Brisk	Brisk Teaching can provide AI-generated feedback on student drafts, helping them refine their thesis, structure their arguments, and improve the overall quality of their

	writing. Teachers can use this feedback to engage in conversations with students about their revisions.
Gemini as a Scoring and Feedback Tool	Gemini can be used to provide detailed feedback for improvement. The tool can encourage students to focus on specific areas of their writing and engage them in discussions with their teachers about how to enhance their drafts.



[AI in the Writing Workshop: Finding the Write Balance](#) (Heinemann 2025).

Discount code: PROFBKS30A

To access Kristina’s SchoolAI bot, click [HERE](#)

Article: [Grading student writing with AI: What we lose when AI replaces teachers](#)

Gemini Prompt: I’m a 9th grade student working on a personal narrative for English class. I already have a rough draft and a rubric from my teacher. I want SPECIFIC, rubric-based feedback. Not a full rewrite. First, here is my teacher’s rubric / criteria (please read this carefully and use the same language in your feedback):

Next, here is my personal narrative draft:

Please: Start with a 3–4 sentence overview of what I’m doing well and what needs the most work. Then give feedback in CLEAR SECTIONS that match my rubric categories. Do NOT write new paragraphs for me. Instead, give me revision OPTIONS. At the end, list 3–5 concrete “next steps” I should take in revision, in order of priority.