

Types of Genres and Formats in MTP

Varying the types of writing that you model during Message Time Plus will expose students to a variety of genres and formats in a meaningful context. Use the chart below to analyze your current instruction and make plans for future lessons.

Directions: Place a check mark under the appropriate column to note whether you would like to try out these genres and/or formats in future MTP lessons. (For specificity, you can circle the exact ones that you would like to try in each column). When choosing genres to teach, write the reason that you need to teach them. For example, you want to write a message in the format of a glossary because you observed that students do not understand how to use this text feature. Under "Reason", write *Common Core Standard, R.I.2.5. (Know and use various text features)* and *assessment data: reading conference records*. In the last column, record the approximate date that you plan to incorporate these genres into your messages.

Key for Area of CCS: RL = Literature, RI = Informational, W = Writing

Area of CCS	Genres (G) and Formats (F)	I need to teach this	Reason (assessment data, CCS, district scope and sequence)	Date
RL	G: Realistic fiction, historical fiction, fantasy, poetry, folk/fairy tales, fables, myths, mystery, plays, F: paragraph, chapter, Venn diagram (i.e. compare two similar texts), retelling, stanza, scene, picture with text below, song lyrics, comic strips			
RI	G: Expository informational, narrative informational (i.e. biographies, informational poems) F: informational paragraph, diagram, illustration/caption, photograph and text, map, Venn Diagram, K-W-L, glossary, index, text with headings/subheadings, recipe, timeline			

W	G: Opinion F: Review (i.e. book, movie, restaurant), list (i.e. pre-writing: a list of three reasons to support the opinion), paragraph (could model one paragraph each day), persuasive letter			
W	G: Informative/Explanatory texts F: list (i.e. possible topics, questions to answer), model of note-taking during research, informative paragraph (could be part of larger report on one topic), biography, how-to			
W	G: Narrative (including memoir, autobiography, short fiction) F: pre-writing (i.e. list of topics or events, character web) personal narrative, paragraph with dialogue, beginning, middle or end to a narrative, journal entries (to gather ideas)			
Content	G: informational (i.e. math, science or social studies text) F: science observation, math problem/solution, advertisement			
Test Taking	G: varies by area of focus (i.e. fiction, informational, poetry) F: writing prompt and partial response, test questions: short answer, extended response, multiple choice, paragraph to illustrate a specific tested skill/strategy (i.e. what is the main idea and supporting details?), list of test taking strategies			

An additional resource on this topic is *Writing Forms and Genres*, available on www.cliontheweb.org.