

## Common Core Standards for the Informative Writing Unit

### [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2](#)

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

### [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.A](#)

Introduce a topic clearly, provide a general observation and focus, and group related information logically; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

### [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.B](#)

Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

### [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.C](#)

Link ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., *in contrast*, *especially*).

### [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.D](#)

Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

### [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.2.E](#)

Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.

Lesson 9- elaborate with facts

I can elaborate my topic by including more facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations and examples related to my subtopics.

I can do this by analyzing the mentor for all different kinds of information authors use to teach their topic.

How will my learning be assessed today?

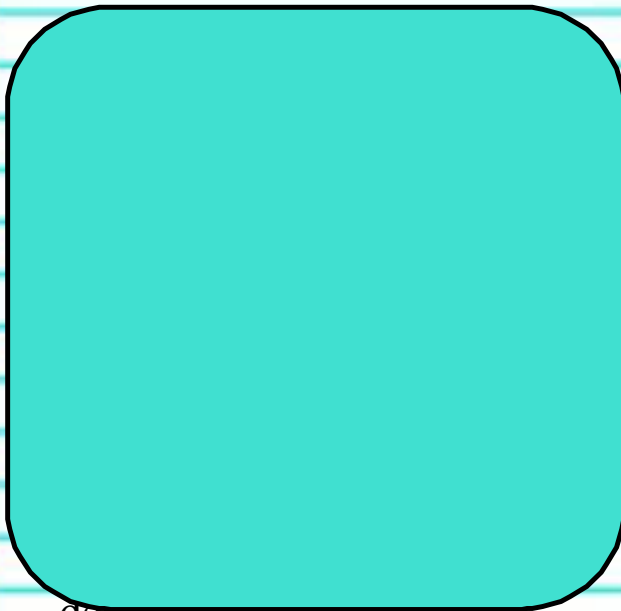
- my ability to continue drafting by including more facts, definitions, details or quotes. Or find places in my draft I want to elaborate
- my ability to find a few ways that authors use all different kinds of info to elaborate their topic.

I can elaborate my topic by including more facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations and examples related to my subtopics.

Connection

CHART:

**All The Ways Information Writers Elaborate**



descriptions

CITE RESOURCE

expert quotes

One author of The Rock We Eat: Salt, included a narrative about a King's daughter who prepared a meal without salt. The narrative helped me understand show important the mineral is.

Another example, Guide dogs are very valuable to people they help. Guide dogs help people with countless everyday activities, such as, crossing the street, making meals, and even using the ATM.

OR writers compare what they've just said to something the reader may know.... For example:

Guide dogs go through extensive training before they are ready to live with someone who is vision impaired. Their training is similar to the book camp that soldiers go through when they join the army.

I can elaborate my topic by including more facts, concrete details, quotations, text features, and examples related to my subtopics.

## Model

Let's work together to analyze body paragraph 2 of English Bulldogs for development- as well as a spoonful

### Special Care

English Bulldogs need to be walked at least once per day. According to the site [bulldoginfo.com](http://bulldoginfo.com), they have a "canine instinct to migrate," which means that because they are a dog, it is natural for them to want to move around. In addition, it is good for English Bulldogs to practice catching and chasing. The reason for this is that chasing is part of their instinct. It is important to use the same commands each time you play with a bulldog, that way it can learn. Bulldogs have a short coat. It is only about ½ inch long. This means they don't have to be brushed all the time. Most books say to brush English Bulldogs about 3–4 times every week. This is usually enough to keep them looking glossy.

Bulldogs don't really need a special diet, but they do need to eat foods that are natural and it is good if they eat at the same time each day. The book *Bulldog Life*, by James Thomas, says that many bulldogs only need to eat once per day. The book also says you should read labels to find out about good ingredients. Stay away from processed foods. In my opinion, this is a smart thing to do in general, whether feeding your pet or yourself!

### Health Issues

This is a special section on some of the health problems that English Bulldogs sometimes have. Read the chart to find out more.

Health Problem	What to Do
• Heat Stroke—getting too hot and panting	• Don't let them play too long in the heat, give them cool water right away
• Cherry Eye—a swollen gland in the eye	• Take them right to the vet when their eyes get really red
• Hip Dysplasia—hip doesn't fit in the joint	• Don't make them walk up stairs and get a low dog dish

Text feature: Subtopic

details.  
How did I elaborate here?

Text feature: Subtopic

I can elaborate my topic by including more facts, concrete details, quotations, text features, and examples related to my subtopics.

## Guided

With your partner, analyze analyze a body paragraph of the mentor article of your choice, to find evidence of elaboration, research, and development- as well as a spoonful or two of text features! You can use the Elaboration chart we created as a class. Be ready to share some of the unique findings.



-So, fancy informational writers, you may have noticed that while voice and text features are fine and dandy- without research and development, there is no engaging Feature Article!

CHART:

All The Ways Information Writers Elaborate	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	concrete facts
<input type="checkbox"/>	anecdotes
<input type="checkbox"/>	examples
<input type="checkbox"/>	lists
<input type="checkbox"/>	comparisons
<input type="checkbox"/>	important terms and definitions
<input type="checkbox"/>	descriptions
<input type="checkbox"/>	
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## Mid-workshop Interruption

I can elaborate my topic by including more facts, concrete details, quotations, text features, and examples related to my subtopics.

I see that everyone has found a chunk of their writing to "cut out" and make better using elaboration techniques. One other thing we can keep in mind when drafting is to make sure our beginning sentences of each paragraph state the main idea of that subtopic and connect to the THESIS of your article. Each paragraph can have a "catchy lead" just as you did for the intro. Here are a few examples of body paragraph leads:

### **1. Builds creativity**

I'm a huge fan of Lego. My son and I have spent hours building the model on the box and then taking it apart and making whatever else we wanted by rearranging the parts. Minecraft gives kids the same creative freedom, but it's easier on your bank account.

### **2. It teaches real-world skills**

One overlooked value of most strategy-based video games is resource management. The player has a finite amount of resources at any given time and needs to decide wisely how to use them most effectively.

I can elaborate my topic by including more facts, concrete details, quotations, text features, and examples related to my subtopics.



**You Do-**

### **Independent Practice**



- Now is your time to develop your research and facts with supportive details, quotes, and information- perhaps the most important part of your task!
- Make sure to utilize your transitional words and phrases to link your ideas and your research.
- Remember your sub-topic headings are catchy mini titles that make it clear to your reader that your sub-topics are related to your overall focus (in this case, English Bulldogs!)
- If you have already drafted parts of your Feature Article, you can pick the part you want to "Cut Out." You can rewrite this part, on another piece of loose leaf, using what you learned about ELABORATION.
- If you are just starting to draft your body paragraphs, remember to do your best to elaborate on each fact you are writing down. Keep your readers engaged and let your writing grow.

I can elaborate my topic by including more facts, concrete details, quotations, text features, and examples related to my subtopics.

## SHARE

Which part of your article did you re-draft in order to use more elaboration techniques?

How did you elaborate more?





