Edit for Ending Punctuation

Objectives

In this mini-lesson, students will:

• Learn how to edit an informational text for correct ending punctuation.
• Edit practice sentences and share their edits with the class.
• Discuss how they can apply this skill to their own independent writing.

Explanation of Editing for Ending Punctuation

Say: When we edit our writing, we always want to check for correct punctuation. There are many types of punctuation in our writing, and one of the most common types is ending punctuation. We must use ending punctuation at the end of each sentence. Why do you think this is important? (Allow responses.) If we forget to use ending punctuation, your reader will not know where one sentence ends and another sentence begins. We use different kinds of ending punctuation for different kinds of sentences.

Model Editing for Ending Punctuation

Display the modeling text (without end punctuation) on chart paper or using the interactive whiteboard resources. Ask students to listen as you read each passage aloud and think about the correct ending punctuation for each sentence.

1. What dessert could be more American than apple pie?
2. Chocolate chip cookies were invented by accident.
3. Chocolate chip cookies are yummy!

Modeling Text

After sentence 1. Say: This sentence asks a question, so I know I need to have a question mark at the end. I’ll write a question mark at the end of this sentence.

After sentence 2. Say: Oh no! There isn’t any ending punctuation for this sentence, so I need to make a change. This sentence makes a statement. I’ll add a period to the end of the sentence and put a circle around it to make sure I see it when I rewrite my draft.

After sentence 3. Say: This sentence makes me feel excited about eating chocolate chip cookies. I can put an exclamation point at the end of the sentence to show that I am excited about eating chocolate chip cookies.

Preparation

Materials Needed

• Chart paper and markers
• Index cards
• Informational Reports Checklist
• Interactive whiteboard resources

Advanced Preparation

If you will not be using the interactive whiteboard resources, copy the modeling and practice texts (without end punctuation) onto chart paper prior to the mini-lesson.
2. Rehearse

Practice Editing for Punctuation

Display the practice text (without end punctuation) on chart paper or using the interactive whiteboard resources.

1. Ruth Graves Wakefield and her husband Kenneth ran a restaurant.
2. Wow! Mom made chocolate chip cookies!
3. Do you like chocolate chip cookies?

Practice Text

Ask students to work with a partner to write each practice sentence and edit it for proper ending punctuation. Each pair should be prepared to read their edited sentences to the class and explain how their changes improved each sentence.

Share Practice Edits

Invite partners to read aloud their edited sentences and explain how their edits improved each sentence. Make the changes to the sentences on chart paper or using the interactive whiteboard resources to model how you use proofreading symbols during the editing process. Discuss and support students’ use of proofreading symbols.

3. Independent Writing and Conferring

Say: We just learned how to edit our informational reports for correct ending punctuation. Remember, good writers find and correct punctuation errors before taking their work to completion.

Review the Informational Reports Checklist (page 64) and encourage students who are at the editing stage of their independent writing to focus on editing for end punctuation and other conventions of good writing. During conferences, use the prompts on your conferring flip chart to support students’ independent or peer editing.

4. Share

Bring the class together. Invite volunteers to discuss errors they found and were able to correct in their informational reports.

Strategies to Support ELs

Beginning

Work with ELs one on one to support their understanding of when and how to use ending punctuation marks. Write these sentences on chart paper: I see Tina. Do you see Tina? Tina is great! Read each sentence aloud, using appropriate expression at the end of each sentence. Circle the end punctuation. Write the ending punctuation marks on index cards and give them to students. Read the following sentences aloud, one at a time, and ask students to hold up the card with the correct punctuation. Say: Do you like this book? I read this book. I loved this book!

Intermediate and Advanced

Pair ELs with fluent English speakers during the partner activity.

All Levels

If you have ELs whose first language is Spanish, share these English/Spanish cognates: correct/corrígir; edit/editar; punctuation/la puntuación.