

Unlocking school students' potential for English writing through self-regulated learning and 21st century skills

Webinar handout

By Barry Bai

Self-regulated learning includes goal-setting, planning, monitoring and reflection in the writing process. Motivation drives self-regulated learning. 21st century skills (e.g., creativity and critical thinking) spice up the whole writing process.

Goal Setting:

Students establish clear goals for their writing, such as improving vocabulary, grammar, or the coherence of their ideas.

Planning:

This stage involves organizing thoughts and structuring the writing task before beginning to write.

Monitoring:

Students track their performance during the writing process, observing their own strategies and identifying areas for improvement.

Reflection:

After completing a piece of writing, students evaluate their work and the effectiveness of their strategies, making adjustments for future tasks.

For English writing, students should be given choice and autonomy, two key elements of motivation. Classroom teaching should also include 21st century skills because these skills have fundamentally reshaped the goals and methods of teaching English writing. It moves beyond the traditional focus on grammar and essay structure to prepare students for the communicative, collaborative, and

critical-thinking demands of the modern world.

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Resources:

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/skills/writing>

<https://www.clemr.fed.cuhk.edu.hk/resources>

<https://www.clemr.fed.cuhk.edu.hk/activities-qef-pri-2025-26>