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Standards and Benchmarks: 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1H, 1J, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F, 3G, 3H, 3I, 3J, 3K, 3L

5W+H Questions

Answering the *5W+H questions* (who, what, where, when, why, and how) provides the basic information needed to begin a story. By answering the 5W+H questions, you can determine whether you have enough ideas to write a strong narrative.

Completed narratives can also be revised using the 5W+H technique. After reading a narrative, answer the following questions:

- Who was in the narrative?
- Where did the narrative take place?
- Why did the characters do what they did?
- What was the narrative about?
- When did the events happen?
- How was the conflict resolved?

The following activity will help you learn to use the 5W+H technique for your own writing.

Party Time!

As a class, discuss the following invitation. Notice that it answers the 5W+H questions.

Event: Winning the Soccer Championships
Who: All Junior League soccer players and fans
What: Make your own pizza, ice cream sundae bar, indoor swimming, volleyball, basketball, and organized games
When: Saturday, November 18, 12–4 P.M.
Where: All-Sport Athletic Club, Soccerville
Why: The Junior League soccer players won the trophy and want to celebrate with those who cheered them on all season!
How: Bring towels, bathing suits, and a smile!

Activity

Create three invitations for three separate events. All invitations must include answers or responses to the 5W+H questions: who, what, where, when, why, and how.

Brainstorm a list of events first, for example:

- baby's birth
- graduation
- new home or apartment
- retirement
- promotion
- anniversary

Illustrate or decorate your final invitation and post a copy on an "Invitations" bulletin board. Read the bulletin board and discuss the event you would most like to be a part of, and the event that seems the least appealing.

