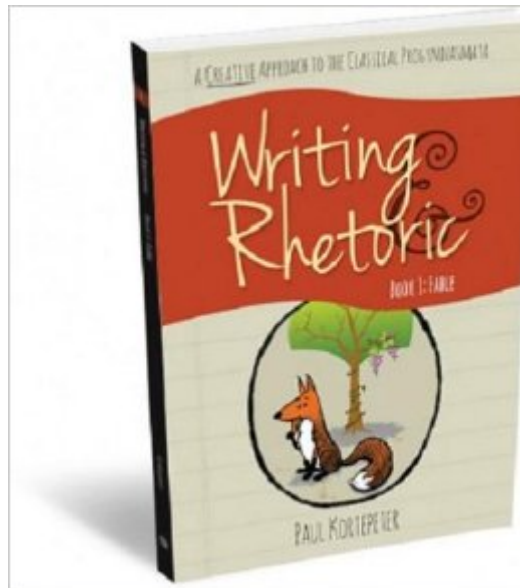


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# Writing & Rhetoric Book 1: Fable – Student Edition – A One-semester Course For Grades 3 Or 4 And Up



## Synopsis

A Creative Approach to the Classical Progymnasmata- Think of the progymnasmata as a step-by-step apprenticeship in the art of writing and rhetoric. What is an apprentice? It is a young person who is learning a skill from a master teacher. Our students will serve as apprentices to the great writers and great stories of history. Students are often expected to write with no clear model before them. Modern composition scolds traditional writing instruction as rote and unimaginative. It takes imitation to task for a lack of freedom and personal expression. And yet, effective communication from writer to reader always requires some sort of form and structure. Many of history's greatest writers learned by imitation. In other words, writing takes the same kind of determined study as ballet or diving. Creativity uses conventional form as a stage or a springboard from which to launch grand jetes and somersaults. Too often students are expected to tackle complex writing assignments without learning the necessary intermediate steps. The assumption is that because most everyone can speak English well enough to be understood, and form letters with a pencil, that everyone should be able to write well. Yet how many of us would expect a child to sit at a piano, without piano lessons, and play a concerto? Writing is never automatic. The Writing & Rhetoric series method employs fluent reading, careful listening, models for imitation, and progressive steps. It assumes that students learn best by reading excellent, whole-story examples of literature and by growing their skills through imitation. Each exercise is intended to impart a skill (or tool) that can be employed in all kinds of writing and speaking. The exercises are arranged from simple to more complex. What's more, the exercises are cumulative, meaning that later exercises incorporate the skills acquired in preceding exercises. This series is a step-by-step apprenticeship in the art of writing and rhetoric. Fable, the first book in the Writing & Rhetoric series, teaches students the practice of close reading and comprehension, summarizing a story aloud and in writing, and amplification of a story through description and dialogue. Students learn how to identify different kinds of stories; determine the beginning, middle, and end of stories; recognize point of view; and see analogous situations, among other essential tools. The Writing & Rhetoric series recovers a proven method of teaching writing, using fables to teach beginning writers the craft of writing well. This is the first in a series of twelve books that will train students over six years, starting in grades three or four and up. Classical Academic Press Educators will find all curricula by Classical Academic Press to be created with four important attributes. Each product is classical, creative, relevant, and easy to use. As our company name implies, you will find that we publish classical books and media, seeking to acquaint students with the best that has been thought and said. We also design and present our products with creativity and zest, from beautiful illustrations to engaging storytelling, ensuring that

the classical subjects being taught are anything but boring. Areas we publish in include: -Latin  
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## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

We have used Writing With Ease in the past, but when my son was finished with that, I felt he wasn't ready to move into Writing With Skill. In my search for something else to use, I stumbled on this new curriculum from CAP. I decided to go for it, and I am so glad we did. We may never go to Writing With Skill because this is just so good! It includes copywork, narration / summary, and dictation as WWE did. But there is so much more! The student also has the opportunity to rearrange sentences, substitute words (coming up with synonyms), label parts of speech, add details to the story, rewrite the story with new characters, and memorize. The fables are interesting and amusing for the student. The book just LOOKS fun with the different fonts and illustrations included. The student I'm using it with is in 5th grade, so slightly older than the recommended age, but he is enjoying it, too. I think that's partly due to the fact that it's slightly below grade level, but also because it's just more fun! (I don't mean to stomp on WWE because we were mostly happy with that, and it was useful to us for a time, but this is just better). I hope CAP can keep up with the production and stay ahead of the level we need because I foresee us using this curriculum for a long time to come!

I love this curriculum. My oldest two boys absolutely loathe writing. This is the first writing curriculum

we've tried in our home school that makes writing time less painful. My boys willingly participate in our writing lessons without too much whining for the first time ever. One of them is severely dyslexic, so he gets overwhelmed very easily. Writing and rhetoric teaches writing in such a way that it does not overwhelm him, yet provides enough of a challenge at the same time, and he is able to produce quality pieces of writing. We used this book first semester this year for 4th/5th grade. Can't wait to begin the next book with my boys in a few weeks. My youngest is using writing with ease, but when he outgrows that we will definitely transition him into writing and rhetoric.

Best grade school writing program I have found (and I've tried many.). Both my mother and sister teach English at the university level and they were also impressed with these manuals. But perhaps most important is how much my son loves them.

We really enjoy this curriculum. It's very well packaged which makes it enjoyable and far less dry than most of the other classical writing curriculums out there. It's helping save one of my kiddos from hating writing!

FANTASTIC book for the reluctant writer! My son will never 'like' a writing book; but he hates this one less than all the others. So that's good enough for me! His cousin wanted one, too, when he saw it, so this order was for him. I know that once they get into writing they are really going to fall in love with it, and this book is a GREAT start!

I feel this can be a reading and writing intensive book if you follow the book as directed. I choose to skip one or two parts of the section that I feel are time exhausting and follow the rest of the lessons as directed by the book. Having said that my daughter and I are enjoying the fables & morals. We are both expanding our thinking and vocabulary. If you have a young child I would suggest to go slow, work together and it will be fun.

This is an easy and fun way to learn about writing that does not overwhelm the student.

We have loved this series. The other series I could compare this to is an early intro to Bible Heroes. While that curriculum was great with rules and baseline dos and don'ts, this series allows for more creativity. This series has the same approach each chapter, essentially asking the Student to modify works s/he reads, as well as some footwork and auditory listening/writing exercises. I feel that in

general I have added more of the structure we learned last year to make this a more robust program, which is unfortunate since it seems to be lacking there. All in all, I would say this is a great approach to classical writing creatively, by lacks some instruction on the structure part.

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