

\* New Content This Year\* If your student took Level 1 last year and Mrs. Hope recommended repeating Level 1, your student should take this course, which contains new content at the same level for additional practice with IEW skills.

## **Class Description:**

Writing with Confidence uses the highly acclaimed and effective approach developed by the Institute for Excellence in Writing. Students gain mastery of the basic skills of writing through weekly lessons in structure and style. By practicing note-taking, writing from outlines, creative writing, essays, research reports, critiques, and other types of writing, students internalize the standard structure of such compositions so that it becomes second nature to them. In addition, they learn stylistic techniques and keep using them as the year progresses. Powerful word choices, sentence variation, and figurative language become easier for them, making their writing come alive. Since each lesson has a clear checklist of required elements of structure and style, students know exactly what they need to do to succeed on an assignment. As students gradually move toward independence with their writing skills, their confidence grows and their creativity blossoms.

This course is literature-based; students read the first three books in C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia series. Generally, one to three chapters per week are assigned; novels may be read by the family for read-aloud time or by the student. Writing instruction topics include outlining, summarizing, writing from outlines, narratives, topic sentences, research reports, stories, creative writing, essays, response to literature, writing essays from a prompt, editing, revising, grammar, stylistic techniques, and vocabulary enrichment. Students participate in games and contests, practice speaking from notes, and prepare a final portfolio.

Level 1 uses a Grammar Geeks curriculum developed by the instructor. Grammar Geeks handouts are included in the course fee.

Required materials: Purchased text (see below), dictionary, spiral notebook, pocket folder, 3 x 5 index cards (100), 1-inch three-ring binder, pencils, pens, highlighters.

Text to purchase: *U.S. History-Based Writing Lessons* Student Book, available from *IEW.com* (product code: UHB-S).

Novels to purchase or borrow: *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* is necessary at the start of Fall Semester. More information will be provided later.