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Back Matter

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Michigan Council of Teachers of English

MCTE is composed of teaching professionals, like yourself, who work in classrooms just like yours. Whether you face a lively group of kindergarteners, or a room full of preservice teachers, you have colleagues in the Council who understand the challenges you face and share your concerns about your students' futures.

This is a time of unprecedented change in education as Michigan schools enter the 21st century. From classroom practice to teacher training to statewide curriculum mandates, MCTE can provide you with a window on your profession and a community of committed professionals with whom you can share ideas and concerns.

As a member of MCTE you receive the **Michigan English Teacher**, a newsletter published five times a year. Through the MET you will learn about upcoming conferences and special events, pending legislation, and other news about teachers successfully meeting the challenges of today's classrooms.

You will also receive the **Language Arts Journal of Michigan**, a twice yearly collection of articles on current practices and concerns in the teaching of the English language arts. Each issue has articles written by and for elementary, middle school, high school, and college teachers.

Each fall MCTE sponsors a statewide convention that brings educational leaders from around the state and nation to Lansing to talk about professional concerns. This annual conference is a chance for you to gain new insight on classroom strategies and find out what other teachers around the state are doing to meet the ever-changing demands on language arts teachers.

MCTE also co-sponsors conferences around the state throughout the year. Western Michigan, Michigan State University, and Saginaw Valley State University are the sites of such conferences.

The Michigan Council of Teachers of English Membership Application

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Position: Teacher _____ Instructor/Professor _____ Student _____ Other _____

Membership Dues: yearly \$25.00, full-time student \$15.00

Send form and check payable to MCTE to : Ray Lawson, Secretary-Treasurer, MCTE
P.O. Box 1152, Rochester, MI 48307

Language Arts Journal of Michigan
CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

INQUIRY AND RESEARCH

As teachers of the language arts, we want our students to be able to use the language arts to learn. It is our hope that students will learn to identify and frame meaningful questions and learn how to search for answers.

In student-centered classrooms, students have always had opportunities for inquiry and research. In classrooms that are more tied down by district or building curricula it has been more difficult.

For this issue we are interested in pieces which demonstrate the diversity of inquiry and research from kindergarten through college.

What types of activities do you use to engage your students in research? How do you teach the skills necessary for research? How do you lead students to find meaningful topics? What do the products look like? What do students say about these projects?

What are your own topics for classroom research? How does your own research inform your practice? In what ways do teacher-researchers help their students?

Deadline: December 15, 1998.

REFLECTING ON WRITING INSTRUCTION

Writing instruction is a popular topic for professional development these days in Michigan. From the emphasis on writing in all the High School Proficiency tests to the 5th and 8th grade MEAP tests, teachers all over our state have a heightened interest in teaching their students to write. Perhaps it's a good time to strike while the iron is hot and share our best strategies, assignments, and projects.

We know the best preparation for these writing tests is a strong writing program which emphasizes many opportunities to write to a variety of audiences for a variety of purposes.

What are some ways that you teach the writing process to students? How do you engage students in the revision process? How do you enable your students to be successful with peer conferencing? In what ways do students publish their writing in your classroom?

How do you teach reflective writing? What are some of the areas of the curriculum in which you incorporate reflective writing?

How have you integrated writing into other areas of the curriculum? How do you use writing across the curriculum?

For this issue we are interested in a variety of manuscript forms from kindergarten through college.

Deadline: June 15, 1999.

Length: Four to twelve pages in MLA format (please include two copies).

Submit to: *Language Arts Journal of Michigan*, Susan Steffel, 774 3231
215 Anspach Hall, Department of English, Central Michigan University,
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

517- 1349-3304 Mome

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