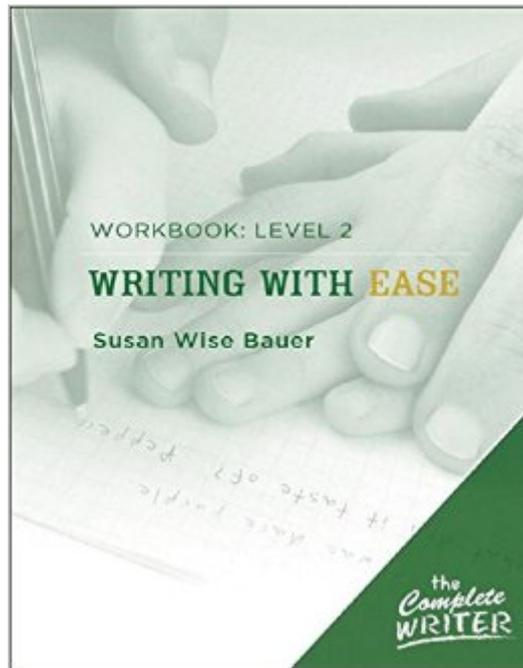


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# The Complete Writer: Level Two Workbook For Writing With Ease (The Complete Writer)



## Synopsis

A new series on teaching writing, from the author of *The Well-Trained Mind*. In *Writing with Ease*, Susan Wise Bauer lays out an alternative plan for teaching writing, one that combines the best elements of old-fashioned writing instruction with innovative new educational methods. The workbooks provide lessons, student worksheets, and teacher instructions for every day of writing instruction. Each covers one year of study. Used along with *Writing with Ease, Level Two* (second in a planned four-volume set) complete the elementary-grade writing curriculum.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (45 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This is our second year of homeschooling. This is our first year with a structured writing program. Last year was just a general language arts and reading program. We use the *Writing With Ease* workbook, although we have the book and workbook. You don't NEED both, just one or the other - although the book is a good primer on the overall program. The book doesn't, however, have all the daily work laid out like the workbook does. It just has the background and philosophy, the structure, some samples and general ideas. We easily prefer the workbook over the book. Our ds is using the *Writing With Ease Level 2* workbook. The program consists of four days per week. The same piece of literature is used all week. For example, you may use half of "The Pied Piper" during the first half of the week and the second half during the second half of the week. Day one is narration. You read a chosen portion of a book, story or poem to the child and have them summarize it back to you in two

or three sentences. You write down their summary sentences as they tell them to you. As the course progresses, the passages get increasingly longer and more complex. Day two is copywork. They copy a sentence or more from the same piece of literature. Day three is dictation. You dictate a sentence or two to the student, pausing appropriately for commas and periods or reading with excitement for exclamation points. The student has to use your reading of the passage to write the sentence out without being told what the actual punctuation is. Day four is narration AND dictation. It is similar to day one. You read a different portion of the same piece of literature. The child summarizes the passage back to you in two or three sentences.

I have used the entire four year curriculum with 3 of my children and will use it with my fourth when she is old enough. Consequently I thought I should write a review of the program and why I love it. Many famous authors began their writing by first copying down lines from accomplished authors before embarking on their own writing careers. This is the premise of "Writing with Ease" - the first years the student copies lines from great works or dictates their own sentences to the teacher. By the 4th year the teacher dictates a few sentences and the student has to write them down. There are 4 lessons per week with 2 set aside to copywork or dictation (copywork for the younger grades and dictation for the older). Besides writing there is a reading and comprehension part to the program and 2 days are set aside for the reading assignment. The younger student is asked leading questions to prompt him to the correct summation of the passage. As they get older they are just asked to summarize the passage without prompts from the parent/teacher. Specifically, the Level two book transitions from copywork to dictation. As for the reading and summation part of the book, the parent continues to ask the leading questions which are provided to help the student sum up the passage and then writes down what the child says. After the parent has written down the sentences they then read it back to the child and the student then writes down the summary themselves. The theory behind this is you are helping your child logically sum up the passage without making them think about spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, etc. This can be quite overwhelming for many children when asked to not only summarize a passage but to also write it down at the same time.

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