

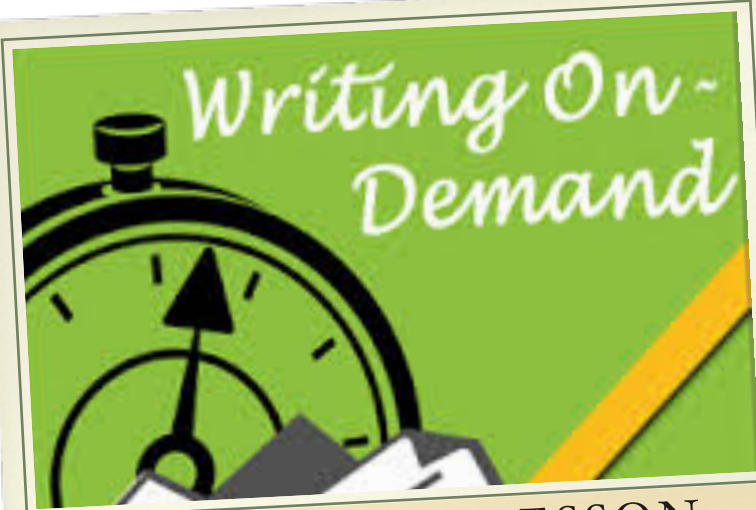
# LISTEN TO THE VERBS

*lessons in on demand writing*

## Sample Lesson

**TIME FRAME OF  
LESSON  
20 - 45 MINUTES**

Note: Use a sample state release prompt posted on the MDPT Cardinal Spaces Website for authenticity of assessment type.



### OUTLINE OF LESSON

LISTEN TO THE VERBS

1. Begin by conducting a brainstorming session with students creating a list of writing verbs. Examples might include: explain, convince, tell, etc.
2. Once you've got a good list, switch the topic to a brainstorming of writing genres. Examples might include: expository, persuasive, dialogue, etc.
3. Ask students to categorize the verbs they generated according to which genre it correlates with. For example, convince=persuasive.
4. Put a writing prompt on the overhead. Ask the students to identify the verbs. They ask them what genre the verb calls for. Practice with 2-3 prompts as a whole class.
5. Break students up into groups of 2-3.
6. Assign each group one or two writing prompts and ask them to discern what genre the prompt is calling for.
7. Groups report out to the class. Conduct a discussion with the class about the power of verbs in rhetorical analysis as well as in their own writing.