

**Tools for Travel**  
**Grade 3 Informational/Opinion Feedback for Improvement**

**Topic: Tools for Travel**

**Main Idea #1:** GPS

**Main Idea #2:** Camera

**Main Idea #3:** Journal

**Main Idea #4:** Map

**What worked:**

- **Organization:** The student does have a clear organizational prewriting plan for their informational piece.
- **Main Idea/Reasons:** The student stated the main ideas in the main idea sentences using transitions, however the language is somewhat simplistic.
- **Elaboration:** The student has some background knowledge of the detail generating questions but is not fully applying them to the details..
- **Introduction:** A question was used for the lead- *What tools do you need when you travel?* This is an effective way to hook the reader in.

**Feedback with Prescriptive Lesson:**

**CHOOSE a Focus Skill:** What skill will make the biggest impact for this writer?

**Main Ideas Sentences:** The student needs to understand the value of rich language and varied sentence structure and with teacher direction, start to bring both to their main idea/reason sentences.

**Section 2 Lesson 10** Alternatives to Boring, Redundant Main Idea/Reason Sentences

**Section 2 Lesson 11** Revising Boring, Redundant Main Idea Sentences

**Elaboration:** Learning to use the productive questions to elaborate details: What does it look like? Why is it important? Will greatly improve the overall quality of this piece.

**Section 3 Lesson 1** Just Okay...or Much Better? (recognition and awareness)

**Section 3 Lesson 2** General vs Specific

**Section 3 Lesson 5** What Does It Look Like Why Is It Important (Grab Bag)

**Introductions:** This piece needs a strong lead and an effective topic sentence that names the specific main ideas in the author's prewriting plan.

**Section 5 Lesson 1** Identifying Different Types of Leads and Recognizing Topic Sentences

**Section 5 Lesson 2** Recognizing Main Ideas/Main Reasons in Topic Sentences

**Section 5 Lesson 3** Writing an Effective Lead Using a Question

**Section 5 Lesson 4** Writing an Effective Lead Using Three Techniques

**Conclusions:** This student needs to write a strong conclusion paragraph that includes a restatement of the topic and main ideas using word variety to remind the reader what they learned in this informative piece.

**Section 5 Lesson 8** Recognizing Definitive Language for Strong Conclusions

**Section 5 Lesson 9** Writing Conclusions

This student obviously understands the structure of informational writing but needs direct instruction on techniques to build strong main idea sentences, how to use the detail generating questions to elaborate fully on the details and then once these lessons are applied independently, then instruction on introductions and conclusions.

Juliet  
grade 3

~~What tools do you need~~  
When you ~~travel?~~ travel?

First you'll need an ink black GPS with a shiny screen. The best ones you should use are the ones that come from the company, Garmin. Another item you must have is a Canon camera. The you can see the wonderful places of things that you might visit. It should have a dear, bright flash. It would be most helpful to you. One of the most important items is a journal. You can read it when you come back and remember specific details you had. Also, you should have a map of where you are. I'd bet you wouldn't like to be lost! A book about where you are would be nice to use. These will all be helpful when you travel.

This lead is a question - the reader wants to find out!

What tools do you need when you travel? You need to write a topic sentence

First you'll need an ink black GPS with a shiny screen. The best ones you should use are the ones that come from the

why is it important to use a Garmin?

Company, Garmin. Another item you must have is a Canon camera. Then you can see the wonderful places of things that you might visit.

why is it important? Great job why?

what does the Canon camera look like?

It should ~~have~~ have a clear, bright flash. It would be most helpful to you. One of the most important items is a journal. You can read it when you come back and remember specific details you had had. Also, you should have a \*map of where you are. I'd bet you wouldn't like to be lost! A book about where you are would be nice to use. These will all be helpful when you travel.

general restatement

\*map - what does it look like? <sup>Need to add</sup>  
Why it important? - you wouldn't like to be lost  
Good job!

- ↓  
conclusion -
- creatively restate each main idea.
  - use a definitive word or phrase
  - then end with this general restatement