



THE WRITING ACADEMY, LLC®



Module 4

Color-Coding the Full ECR Paper



Grade 3 • Cluster 5

Tackling TEKS 3.12B & 3.11B — Reading & Writing



★ Meet Our Week!

Module Slide 1 • Module 4

★ Daily Deck

I Will...

- Read the full ECR paper and see that every sentence has a job.
- Color-code the introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.
- Find the mirror color pattern between intro and conclusion.
- Connect two texts into one color-coded paper.

I Can...

- Tag each sentence in a paper with its correct color.
- Tell the difference between yellow evidence and red explanation.
- Explain why the intro and conclusion are mirror images.
- **Use evidence from BOTH passages** in my color-coded answer.



Every Sentence Wears a Color

Day 1 • Gather

Imagine every sentence in your paper wears a jersey color, because every sentence has a different job to do.

If all the sentences wore the same color, we would not know who was doing what. When each part has its own color—we can SEE the structure.

Today you become writing color detectives!



The Color Code for the Full Paper

Day 1 • Reveal

Introduction

- Blue = Statement of Purpose
- Yellow = Evidentiary Transition
- Green = Thesis (Central Idea)

Main Bodies 1, 2, 3

- Green = Reason / Way
- Yellow = Evidence
- Red = Explanation
- Blue = Significant Inferencing

Conclusion

- Green = R1 (Restatement)
- Yellow = R2 (Reference)
- Blue = R3 (Reflection)

Paragraph 1 = Introduction · Paragraphs 2–4 = Main Bodies · Paragraph 5 = Conclusion

★ Mirror Images

Day 1 • Reveal (cont.)

Introduction ■ → ■ → ■ broad → bridge → exact answer

Conclusion ■ → ■ → ■ exact answer → support → broad reflection

The colors are opposite because the writing is doing opposite work — the paper opens wide, narrows in, then widens again.



Watch Me Color the Body!

Day 1 • Reveal (cont.) — Ford & Walton

GREEN — Reason

One reason Henry Ford and Sam Walton were important was that they made important needs more affordable for ordinary families.

YELLOW — Evidence

The text stated, “Many families who had never owned a car before were finally able to buy one.” The passage explained, “Customers liked finding many items in one place at prices they could afford.”

RED — Explain

This shows that both men helped everyday families by lowering the cost of things people needed in daily life.

BLUE — Infer

Ultimately, families benefit when useful goods and services become more affordable and easier to access.

Every body paragraph repeats: Green → Yellow → Red → Blue.

★ Color Code Capture

Day 2 • Attempt

How to Play

1. Rebuild the exemplar paper: sort mixed sentence strips under Introduction, Body 1–3, Conclusion.
2. Match each sentence to its job label.
3. Tag each sentence with the correct color.

With Your Team...

You are capturing three things: where the sentence belongs, what the sentence **does**, and what **color** it should wear. Fast and wrong is still wrong — accurate and thoughtful wins!

★ Let's Talk About It!

Day 3 • Discuss

How are the introduction and conclusion alike, and how are they different in color order?

Student Directions

"Turn to your partner and explain: the most important color in helping me understand the paper today was... because..."

Intro? **Blue → Yellow → Green**

Body? **Green → Yellow → Red
→ Blue**

Conclusion? **Green → Yellow
→ Blue**

★ Why Is Explanation Red?

Day 3 • Discuss (cont.)

Why is evidence yellow in both the introduction bridge and the body paragraphs, but explanation is only red?

Yellow represents evidence and support — that color stays steady.
Red is the active thinking work that makes the evidence's meaning clear.

≡ Build & Check the Color Pattern

Day 3 • Use (Independent Practice) — Interactive Notebook

1 Color code the exemplar in your notebook: blue, yellow, green, red.

2 Trade with a partner — check the intro (Blue→Yellow→Green) and conclusion (Green→Yellow→Blue).

3 If you disagree, both partners explain their thinking using the color key.

Every main body paragraph repeats the same pattern: Green → Yellow → Red → Blue.

© You Made the Invisible Visible!

Day 4 • Award & Target

Which color was easiest to identify? Which was hardest? Do I understand the mirror pattern of intro and conclusion?

Curiosity Questions

Why does color help the brain organize writing? Why is the conclusion a mirror of the introduction?

Exit Ticket

Day 5 • Educate & Explain to Others

Teach a partner the color system and the mirror pattern.

"The introduction is colored... because..." "The conclusion mirrors the introduction by..." Explain why red is only used in the body paragraphs.



Find the Wrong Color Job

Small-Group Support

Miscolored

Reason marked blue

Evidence marked yellow

Explanation marked red

Significant inferencing marked green

Corrected

Reason = green

Evidence = yellow

Explanation = red

Significant inferencing = blue

"We are going to look for mistakes on purpose — the best way to understand structure is to find where it breaks."

② Color Pattern Architect

Enrichment • Write in your notebook

Write your own mini exemplar — one intro, one body, one conclusion — then color code it correctly.

Compare a WHY paper's color pattern to a HOW paper's color pattern.

What stays the same in the color structure, even when the prompt type changes?

✓ My Progress Tracker

Directions

This tracker is for YOU! As you practice color-coding a full ECR paper, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in or check the box that matches how you feel.

Be honest with yourself — this helps you see how much you are growing!

Let's Look at an Answer!

Is every sentence in this body paragraph tagged with a color job?

LOW

"Henry Ford and Sam Walton were important. They helped people. The text says families could buy cars. That is good."

What's missing: No sentence is tagged with a color job. It needs the full green (reason), yellow (evidence from BOTH texts), red (explanation), blue (significant-inferencing) body pattern.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

One color job is wrong — can you find it?

MEDIUM

(Blue — marked Significant Inferencing) One reason Henry Ford and Sam Walton were important was that they made important needs more affordable for ordinary families. (Yellow — Evidence) The text stated, “Many families who had never owned a car before were finally able to buy one.” (Red — Explanation) This shows that both men helped everyday families by lowering the cost of things people needed. (Green — marked Reason) Ultimately, families benefit when useful goods and services become more affordable.

What's missing: The first sentence is a reason and should be green (marked blue); the last sentence is significant inferencing and should be blue (marked green). The reason and reflection colors were swapped.

Our Strongest Answer!

Every sentence is tagged with the color that matches its job.

HIGH

(Green — Reason) One reason Henry Ford and Sam Walton were important was that they made important needs more affordable for ordinary families. (Yellow — Evidence) The text stated, “Many families who had never owned a car before were finally able to buy one.” The passage explained, “Customers liked finding many items in one place at prices they could afford.” (Red — Explanation) This shows that both men helped everyday families by lowering the cost of things people needed in daily life. (Blue — Significant Inferencing) Ultimately, families benefit when useful goods and services become more affordable and easier to access.

Why this is High: Green reason, yellow evidence from BOTH texts, red explanation, blue significant inferencing — the body-paragraph pattern exactly. This is our Module 4 target!