RB REDBRIDGE PUBLISHING

FIX THE GAP

Free Year 6 Writing Gap Audit

Find the highest-impact writing gaps before choosing what to teach next

2 independent tasks	**10-skill audit**	**Review grid**	**Next-step map**

1 **Diagnose**	**2** **Model**	**3** **Practise**	**4** **Recheck**

This audit supports teaching decisions. It is not an official KS2 teacher assessment judgement and should not be used to predict a statutory writing outcome.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Use independent writing, not coached sentences

Choose a calm session. Give the pupil time to plan briefly, then ask them to write independently. Avoid supplying sentence starters or correcting language while they are writing.

Why this matters

At the end of KS2, English writing is judged from a broad range of independent evidence. A single task cannot replace that body of work, but it can reveal useful teaching priorities.

Task 1 - narrative

Prompt: Write a story scene in which a character discovers something they were not meant to find.

Plan in no more than six bullet points.

Write independently.

Continue Task 1 if needed.

Task 2 - non-fiction

Prompt: Write a persuasive article for pupils arguing for one change that would improve school life.

Plan the audience, purpose and main reasons.

Write independently.

Continue Task 2 if needed.

Look for repeated patterns across both tasks

Do not overreact to one isolated mistake. Mark a skill as a priority when the same weakness appears repeatedly or significantly limits the writing.

Skill	Secure	Developing	Priority	What did you notice?
Purpose, audience and form				
Paragraphing and cohesion				
Sentence control and variety				
Punctuation for clarity and effect				
Vocabulary and precise word choice				
Description: setting, character and atmosphere				
Dialogue that advances action				
Non-fiction structure and viewpoint				
Editing for meaning, grammar and spelling				
Independent writing and self-evaluation				

NEXT-STEP MAP

Choose the first 2-3 priorities

Start with the gaps that have the greatest effect on clarity and control. Accuracy matters, but purpose, structure and sentence control often unlock larger improvements first.

If you noticed...	Start with...
Writing sounds like the wrong form or tone	Module 1 - Purpose, audience and form
Paragraphs feel random or repetitive	Module 2 - Paragraphing and cohesion
Run-ons, fragments or repetitive sentence openings	Module 3 - Sentence control and variety
Errors make meaning hard to follow	Module 4 - Punctuation for clarity and effect
Vocabulary is vague or over-decorated	Module 5 - Vocabulary and precise word choice
Description lists details but lacks atmosphere	Module 6 - Description
Dialogue fills space rather than moving the scene	Module 7 - Dialogue
Persuasive / information writing lacks structure or stance	Module 8 - Non-fiction structure and viewpoint
Draft is left largely unedited	Module 9 - Editing
Skills disappear when scaffolds are removed	Module 10 - Independent writing

Next step

Use the full Redbridge Publishing Year 6 Writing Mastery pack to teach the selected modules, practise the skill narrowly, then recheck through fresh independent writing.