**WORDSMITH APPRENTICE  
SCOPE AND SEQUENCE**

*Wordsmith Apprentice* was created with two basic purposes in mind:  
1) To supplement and apply grammatical principles. Many students learn punctuation, parts of speech, and basic sentence structure as workbook "exercises" but don't necessarily see the relevance to actual writing. Every grammatical principle taught in *Wordsmith Apprentice* will be applied to several unusual exercises and at least one writing project, reinforcing the idea that there's a reason we learn this stuff!  
2) To introduce the student to several types and purposes of writing, in an imaginative way that will create enthusiasm for the subject. The newspaper theme provides a practical, relevant format for exploring the many ways we use the written word.  
   
**PART ONE: NOUNS, VERBS AND SENTENCES**  
**Nouns**  
Principles taught: how to recognize nouns by "noun markers" (articles); the difference between proper and common nouns; the importance of specific nouns over general ones.  
Projects: "For sale" ads, cinquain and other types of "form" poetry  
**Verbs**  
Principles taught: the difference between action, helping and linking verbs; preferring vivid actions verbs  
Projects: "Help wanted" ads, action poetry, writing definitions  
**Sentence structure**  
Principles taught: the two basic sentence forms; subject and predicate; compounding; the four sentence types  
Projects: picture captions; invitations; letters; newspaper headlines  
   
**PART TWO: MODIFIERS**  
**Adjectives and adverbs**  
Principles taught: how to recognize adjectives and adverbs and how they are used  
Projects: games and word puzzles; diamante poems  
**Prepositions**  
Principles taught: what prepositions are and how they are used  
Projects: expanded picture captions, display ads, real-estate ads, travel writing, book reviews  
   
**PART THREE: ORGANIZING AND REPORTING**  
**Paragraphs**  
Principles taught: recognizing topic sentences and sentences that don't belong; good organization  
Projects: recipe writing, household hints, writing synopses for movies and TV shows, organizing a contest  
**Reporting**  
Principles taught: the five "W's" (who, what, when, where, why), plus "how"  
Projects: fictional and actual news stories  
**Dialogue**  
Principles taught: what dialogue is and how it is represented on paper  
Projects: comic strips  
**Introductory sentences and paragraphs**  
Principles taught: what makes an interesting "hook"  
Projects: writing original articles from pictures; interviews  
**Fact and Opinion**  
Principles taught: the difference between reporting and opining; steps to writing an opinion piece  
Project: editorials