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Preface

Both reading and writing are skills necessary for a successful transition from school to the real world. They are closely related, and perhaps inseparable: Better writers tend to be better readers, and better readers produce better writing; Reading and writing have the power to bridge time and place: We remain in contact with people who lived before us through literature and other written records of human experience. We reach toward our future by knowing how to locate, read, and make use of an ever-increasing amount of information. Effective reading and writing techniques are essential tools for learning, for success in the workplace and for enriching and expanding our horizons. Thus mastering the skills to read and write is one of the most vital targets in our lifelong learning process.

The learning process of writing often seems mysterious, which takes time, practice, and lots of encouragement. Learning to write is not difficult, but learning to write well is one of the most challenging tasks for anyone. It is because writing is not only a

mere arrangement of words according to certain definite rules, but also a way to express the writer's sense and knowledge. To write a forcible and tasteful article, the writer must have eyes to see the vivid side of everything, as well as words to describe what he sees. The use of language in writing should fit the writing purpose and audience. Even if we simply write to express our feelings, record our thoughts, or practice our craft, precision of thought requires precise use of the language. A skilled writer should attain techniques which can frame his thoughts and phrase his sentences into clear, elegance article with style. Writing is, ultimately, an act of communication with another or others.

Reading is an activity with a purpose. A person may read to gain information or verify existing knowledge, or in order to critique a writer's ideas of writing style. The purpose for reading determines the appropriate approach to reading comprehension. Hence developing a set of reading strategies is necessary to deal with a variety of situations and types of input. General reading strategies such as scanning to find the book or chapter, skimming to get the gist and careful reading of important passages are necessary as well as vocabulary building exercise. Learning about how texts are structured can also help reading more efficiently. Reading comprehension results when the readers know which skills and strategies are appropriate for the type of text, and understand how to apply them to accomplish the reading purpose.

This book is a collection of students' literary work written based on six different themes. They incorporate Sense of Achievement, Sense of Affection, Sense of Beauty, Sense of Being, Sense of Belonging and Sense of Humor. The works provide a valuable channel for students to practice their written techniques, vent their feeling and reflect their thought towards things around them. The current collection will also be enormously useful to readers who are planning to initiate or expand writing skills.