Lesson 4: To the Game Designers

UNIT: Pizza Quest

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Margaret.

It's fun to go to the video game store and look at the different games. The cover of a game is the first thing I see, so it gives me a good idea if it's a game that I'll enjoy.

The new game Pizza Quest also needs a cover. The game is all about Pepper, the pizza delivery kid, delivering pizzas through three different worlds: Mount Mozzarella, Marinara Bay, and Deep Dish Glacier.

Nya and her team need to make sure their cover lets players know if they will enjoy this game. They've come up with three different ideas for a cover. Which one do you think they should pick?

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: Which cover should the Pizza Quest team use and why?

HOOK 2

Any of these covers could be fun, but I think this one gives the most information about the game. It has the name of the game in big, clear letters, Pepper delivering pizzas,

and the three worlds. When people see this cover, they'll have an idea of what the game is all about.

Some pieces of writing, like storybooks, have covers. But in opinion writing, writers use something called an introduction—that just means the beginning.

An introduction is sort of like a cover, too. It gives your reader an idea of what the rest of your writing will be about.

You've been working on your map of Pizza Quest. You included your opinions and reasons for how Pepper should travel around each world.

Your writing still needs an introduction so that the game designers will understand why you're writing to them. Think about what you want to tell the game makers before they read about the ideas you have for the game. Maybe you want to say, "Hi, Pizza Quest team," or "I love your new game," or "check out my ideas."

DISCUSSION 2

Discuss: What would you say to the game designers before they read your ideas?

If you're not sure what to say, try using one of these.

HOOK 3

There are so many great ways to start your writing. Remember, your introduction is sort of like a cover. It should help your readers understand why you're writing to them and what the rest of your writing will be about.

Today, you'll write an introduction for your Pizza Quest map. Then, you'll assemble all of these pieces into your final map of the Pizza Quest worlds.

Finally, once you have a long map, you'll fold it up and glue your introduction on the front.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

For now, you'll only need your Introduction worksheet. You won't need any other supplies until later, so you can put everything else to the side for now. Place your Introduction worksheet in front of you, like this.

STEP 3

Before you start your introduction, you'll need to make sure everyone knows who made this map. Write your name here on the line that says, "From."

When you're done, give a silent thumbs up.

STEP 4

Find the happy star.

Your first sentence will tell the Pizza Quest team how you feel about this new game coming out. Maybe you're excited or happy or maybe you're curious.

Write a sentence about how you feel about the new game. If you're not sure what to write, you can use the sentence next to the number 1 on the bottom half of your worksheet.

STEP 5

Your next sentence will give the Pizza Quest team an idea of what your writing is about.

Write a sentence describing what your writing is about. If you're not sure what to write, you can use one of the examples next to the number 2.

STEP 6

Your last sentence will end your introduction. This will say what you hope the Pizza Quest team thinks about your ideas.

If you're not sure what to write, you can use the sentence next to the number 3 at the bottom of your worksheet.

STEP 7

It's time to check your writing. Make sure each sentence starts with a capital letter and ends with punctuation.

Read through your writing and make changes if you need to.

STEP 8

Nice job!

Put your Introduction worksheet to the side for now and get your Marinara Bay and Deep Dish Glacier worksheets. Place your Deep Dish Glacier worksheet on the right side of your desk and your Marinara Bay worksheet on the left side, like this.

STEP 9

Take your glue stick and put at least three long lines of glue over the gray box that says, "Deep Dish Glacier."

Then, line up your Marinara Bay worksheet on top of the gray box like this, and then press down.

STEP 10

Find where the two papers meet. Fold your paper over like this. Your corners will not meet, and it will look like this. It doesn't have to be perfect. Use your thumbnail to make a good crease.

STEP 11

Get your Mount Mozzarella worksheet. Place your worksheets on your desk like this, with Mount Mozzarella on the left and what you just glued together on the right.

STEP 12

Take your glue stick and put at least three long lines of glue over the gray box that says Mount Mozzarella.

Then line up your Marinara Bay worksheet on top of the gray box, like this, and then press down.

STEP 13

Find where the two papers meet. Fold your paper over like this. Your corners will not meet. It doesn't have to be perfect. Use your thumbnail to make a good crease.

STEP 14

Now get your Introduction worksheet and your scissors. Cut out only this part of the worksheet. Make two cuts, one along each of the bold dashed lines.

Put any remaining pieces to the side for now.

STEP 15

This part here will be the cover of your map. This is where you'll place your introduction.

Make sure you open it so that the inside is ready to read.

STEP 16

Watch this whole step before doing.

Flip your Introduction over. Take your glue stick and trace along each side, like this. Then, make an "x" in the middle. Place your Introduction in the center of your cover and press down. Make sure you can still open the flap, if not, adjust it.

STEP 17

Now it's time to put the finishing touches on your map. You can cut out these icons and glue them on the cover or inside flap.

Here's what my finished map looks like.

I'm excited to see what yours will look like when you're done decorating!

Your teacher will tell you how long you have to color and decorate your map.

WRAP UP

Wow! You did it! You've unlocked a new achievement by sharing your opinions and reasons.

Nya and her team will be so excited to read ideas from kids like you, so that they can make Pizza Quest even better.

Your maps look amazing! You've really leveled up your opinion writing. Take some time to share your awesome map with your classmates.

I'll see you next time.