**Sequencing Rationale**

The 7th grade writing curriculum provides no real sequence of when you need to accomplish which piece of writing first or why. I have chosen to start with the **first subunit** a **persuasive essay** because it is engaging and also correlates with a novel we are reading at the time. The students get to choose between four topics of interest that we decide on as a group and begin with the elements needed to write this essay successfully.

The **second subunit** builds upon the first with a different twist in the writing, an **informational essay**. Instead of persuading someone and expressing their likes or dislikes they are writing to provide information. This is a longer piece of writing and does require some research and background knowledge of a topic. This is used as a research paper, but I also pick a topic and have students write what they know. This is a full five paragraph essay and more difficult that the first.

The **third subunit** goes along with the informational essay, a **business letter**. This allows intertwining two types of writing into one project. The business letter is written to ask a company of interest to provide information for your informational essay. There are two different formats for writing a business letter, block format and modified block format, but both contain the same elements.

The **fourth subunit** is completely different, a **narrative essay**. I save this closer to the time of OAT testing because it requires a certain sequence of events in the plot, characters, setting, along with a beginning, middle, and an end. To me it is more important that they put in all the elements in the narrative then write the appropriate amount of paragraphs.