

# First Day to Test Day

PRESENTED BY:



A ROAD MAP TO ACCELERATE STUDENT LEARNING AND  
PREPARE FOR STANDARDIZED TESTS



VIRTUAL-INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

**July 31, 2023**

**8:00 a.m. CT**

Workshop Begins

**3:30 p.m. CT**

Workshop Concludes

*The day will include a 45-minute lunch break.*



## Workshop Outline

### Target the thinking that students must execute when reading any text.

- Demystify the inference process in order to answer comprehension questions about complex texts.
- Attack questions with test-taking tips to support finding the “best” and “most likely” answers.

### Reveal to students that their thinking must also be communicated in writing.

- Define the ingredients to a strong constructed response.
- Propel students beyond simply stating evidence to explaining it.

### Advance students beyond making single-text inferences to generating multi-text syntheses.

- Identify a step-by-step process for reading and annotating multiple texts in one sitting.
- Dissect how readers integrate ideas learned from multiple sources to generate a new thought or synthesis.

### Raise the rigor to reading multiple texts and composing extended responses—all in one sitting.

- Provide explicit instruction on academic vocabulary to support students in decoding and responding to prompts.
- Build on the students’ knowledge of short constructed responses to generate long, extended responses.

## Who benefits?

- 3-12 English Language Arts Teachers
- 6-12 Content-Area Teachers
- Literacy Coaches/ Coordinators
- Title I Teachers / Directors
- ELL Teachers
- Special Education Teachers
- K-12 High-Ability Teachers
- K-12 Administrators

## Three reasons to attend this virtual-interactive workshop:

### 1. High-stakes testing affects everyone.

How students perform on standardized reading and writing tests has far-reaching implications for students, teachers, and schools. Insights into the requirements for test success are needed now more than ever before.

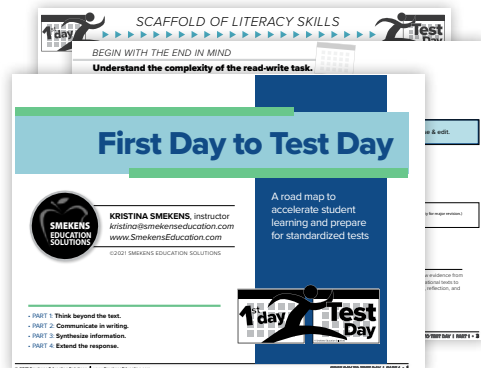
### 2. Success on standardized tests is only part of the goal.

With mastery of academic standards as the ultimate goal, targeted and intentional preparation for the state assessment helps students improve as readers and writers for the test and beyond.

### 3. Success on the test requires explicit instruction.

Kristina Smekens will share strategies to embed rigorous reading and writing instruction into your yearlong curriculum so that students are equipped with the most essential literacy skills.

## WHAT YOU WILL GET



### Downloadable Handout

Receive a full-color downloadable handout for note-taking during the workshop.



### Live Interactive Chat & Access to Video Recording

After interacting with Kristina and collaborating with other attendees during the live workshop, keep on learning with on-demand access to the video recording for one full year!



### Secret Site Resources

Registrants receive lifetime access to a password-protected web page that contains a treasure trove of lessons, videos, and other resources for implementation.

## ABOUT THE PRESENTER

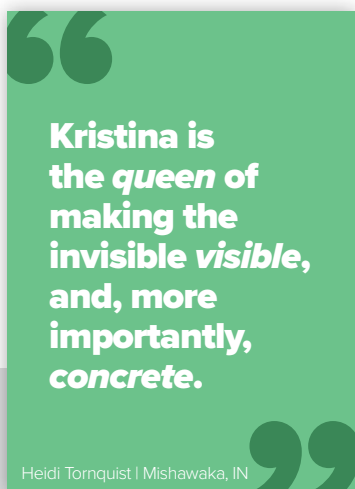
# Kristina Smekens

President & Lead Consultant for Smekens Education, Inc.



Kristina has a gift for making the complex seem simple—for showing teachers how to meet the needs of readers and writers by bridging the gap between education research and practical, classroom-tested strategies that work. A master of motivation, Kristina helps educators find the encouragement they need to return to their classrooms and execute change.

Well known for offering innovative ideas, Kristina has created more than 50 “Smekens Originals,” a compilation of books, guides, and classroom tools designed to help teachers implement best-practice literacy strategies. Among the most popular of these resources are her best-selling books, *Launching the Writer’s Workshop: Grades K-2* and *Grades 3-12*.



*"I feel so much more confident in my ability to prepare my students for the rigorous reading & writing standards of today and tomorrow!"*

**Kristy Worthington**, teacher,  
St. Louis de Montfort Catholic School, Fishers, IN

*"I continue to be amazed by Smekens workshops. Thank you for all of the wonderful information and resources! It will help me in preparing my students for their End-of-Course tests!"*

**Melissa Watts**, teacher,  
Logan High School, Logan, OH

*"I loved that it was virtual. I always feel so refreshed and come out with so many great ideas after a Smekens conference. Thank you!"*

**Allison Slusher**, teacher,  
New Haven Primary School,  
New Haven, IN

*"I always love your conferences, mostly because they are interactive and you all just make people feel comfortable and engaged. I was blown away with the virtual concept and how 'normal' it felt. I loved that they were prerecorded so that the presenter could be engaged in the chat."*

**Kristan Robertson**, instructional coach,  
Huber Ridge Elementary School,  
Westerville, OH

*"Informative and easily accessible information to help with future planning and instruction!"*

**Sarah Boehme**, teacher,  
Pawnee Elementary School,  
Pawnee, IL

*"Kristina is the QUEEN of making the invisible VISIBLE, and, more importantly, CONCRETE. She concretely teaches it to me so that I can teach my kids."*

**Heidi Tornquist**, teacher, Elm Road Elementary School,  
Mishawaka, IN



### Continuing Education Credit

With prior approval from the attendee's school district, participants may receive credit for 5.5 hours of professional development. After the workshop, attendees receive a Certificate of Completion which can be used to verify participation. Illinois educators who attend the live workshop may earn state-approved professional development credit thanks to a partnership with the Illinois ASCD.

### Graduate-Level Credit

Workshop attendees are eligible to pursue 1, 2, or 3 nationally-accredited graduate-level semester credits/units for a full-day session. Through a partnership with University of the Pacific, the cost is \$62 per graduate-level credit/unit. After the workshop, attendees have 6 months to complete the required coursework. The cost of graduate credit is separate from the cost of workshop registration.



# First Day to Test Day

## JULY 31, 2023



Organization Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

District/Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

School address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### PRICING & GROUP RATES:

1 Registrant  
**\$169**

2-14 Registrants  
**\$159 per person**

*For groups of 15 or more, contact us for special pricing and arrangements.*

Total number of registrants: \_\_\_\_\_

@ ☐ \$169 ☐ \$159

**TOTAL PURCHASE AMOUNT:** \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT:

☐ Purchase Order attached (# \_\_\_\_\_ )

☐ Charge to: \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_ Discover

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Card Number

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Authorized signature: **X** \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print.)

### Who's viewing this workshop?

To register more than 10, please submit this form with an Excel file that contains a list of the registrants' names and email addresses to [workshops@smekenseducation.com](mailto:workshops@smekenseducation.com).

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### TO ENROLL:

- FAX THIS FORM – with a school purchase order to **888-376-0489**.
- EMAIL THIS FORM – with a school purchase order to **[workshops@smekenseducation.com](mailto:workshops@smekenseducation.com)**.
- REGISTER ONLINE – at [SmekensEducation.com](http://SmekensEducation.com)

### Satisfaction Guarantee

If you are not completely satisfied with a workshop, we will refund your entire registration fee—no questions asked.

