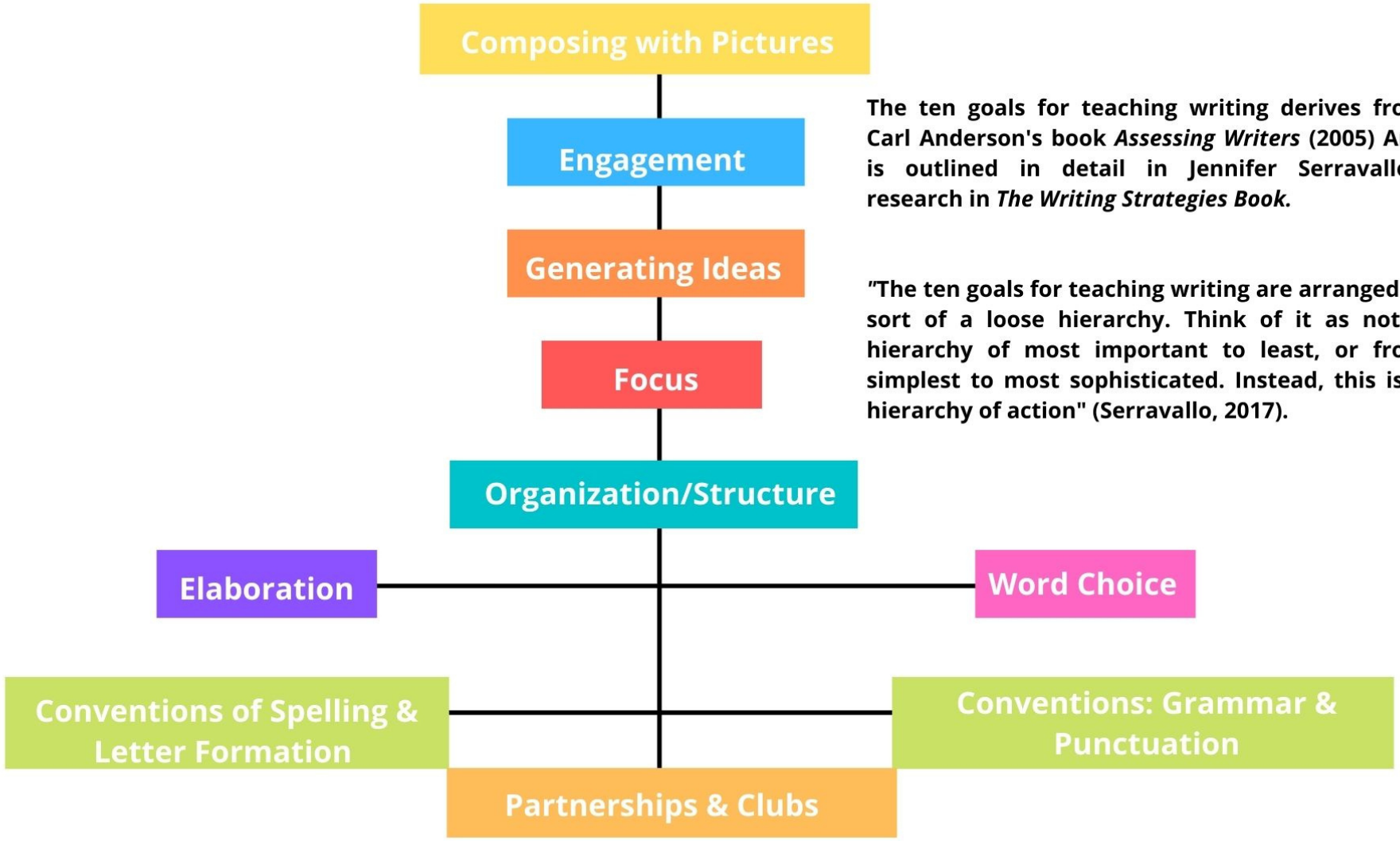
Writing

Teacher Use:

Writing involves a wide range of skills from spelling to grammar, word choice, sentence structure, critical thinking, generating ideas, organizing information, and understanding different types of writing. Given the skills and executive functioning processes involved in writing, children need quality writing instruction to gradually improve their skills over time. This process is of the utmost importance because writing is a lifelong skill students will need to succeed early in school, in college and in their career.

DETERMINING WHERE TO START:

A HIERARCHY OF POSSIBLE WRITING GOALS



The ten goals for teaching writing derives from Carl Anderson's book *Assessing Writers* (2005) And is outlined in detail in Jennifer Serravallo's research in *The Writing Strategies Book.*

"The ten goals for teaching writing are arranged in sort of a loose hierarchy. Think of it as not a hierarchy of most important to least, or from simplest to most sophisticated. Instead, this is a hierarchy of action" (Serravallo, 2017).

Writing / Elaboration

Directions:
Show and Tell Sentences:

Good writers not only TELL you something, they also SHOW it with very descriptive language that paints a picture so you can see, hear, feel, taste or smell what they are describing. Below are four examples of sentences. The first sentence simply tells the reader something, the second sentence shows and tells the reader using descriptive language. Review each example and discuss with a partner how the two types of sentences make you feel. Think about whether the words in each example help you to visualize or see what is happening and why. Highlight some of the descriptive words in the SHOW and TELL sentences.

Sentence that simply tells	Sentence that shows and tells, painting a picture to help you see, hear, feel, taste, or smell what the writer is describing
I ate a big fish for dinner.	My mom cooked an enormous whole fish for dinner, when she put the plate on the table, I was struck by the silvery fish skin as it glittered in the light as well as the glassy fish eyeball that seemed to be staring at me.
We went to the park for a picnic.	The sun gleamed down on us as we sat on the comfy red-checkered blanket in the park, warming my skin and causing me

Writing / Elaboration

Directions:
Show and Tell Sentences:

Below are some sentences in the column to the right that simply tell the reader something in plain language. Your job as a descriptive writer is to change the sentence so it shows and tells, painting a picture that helps the reader see, hear, fell, taste or smell what you are describing.

Sentence that simply tells	Sentence that shows and tells, painting a picture to help you see, hear, feel, taste, or smell what the writer is describing
We went to the amusement park.	
We spent the day at the beach.	
I fell off my bike and broke my leg.	
The eagle flew down to catch a snake.	

Writing / Elaboration

Directions:

Show and Tell Sentences: