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WINTER CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 17 - FEBRUARY 21, 2025



WINTER CONFERENCE

Encouraging Authentic Student Writing

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Authentic Writing

- Real-life context and purpose
- Real audience

Agenda

Part 1: Member panel

Part 2: *The Change Agent* online magazine

Part 1: How are members encouraging authentic writing?

Part 2: Using *The Change Agent* to encourage authentic writing

What is *The Change Agent*?

- Online magazine published by the New England Literacy Resource Center (NELRC) at World Education
- Written by and for adult learners!
- Promotes social action as an important part of the adult learning experience
- [Website](#) includes many additional resources

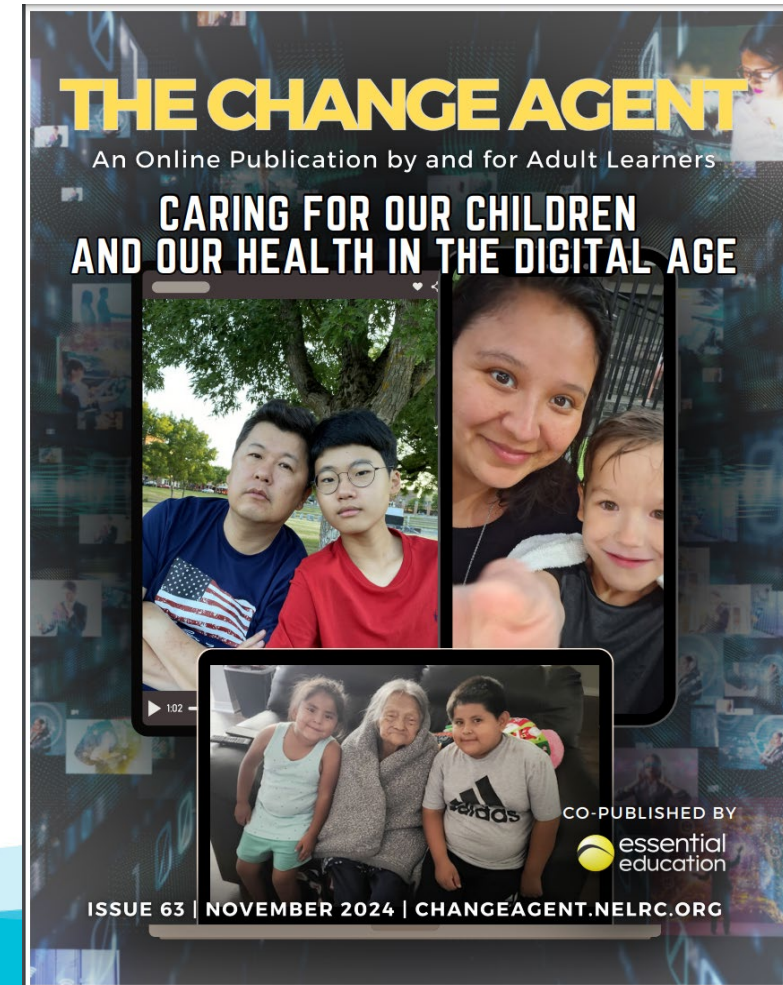
Example Article: “We Need Rules”

Issue 63: Caring for Our Children and Our Health in the Digital Age

Reading level: 5

Ways to read:

- [Online text](#)
- [Audio text](#)
- [PDF](#)
- [Google Slides](#)



Opportunities for authentic writing



Comment as an online reader



Write for the magazine

2025 Call for Articles

Theme: Disability

The 2025-26 series from *The Change Agent* will focus on how students work with and around barriers, individually and collectively. We want to include stories of individual challenges and successes, as well as stories of collective advocacy.

Prompts:

- Tell your story
- Tell your child's story
- Our society and culture

Publishing Timeline: one 3-part series per year

Date	Activity
mid-February 2025	new Call for Articles is published (for 3-part series)
May 2, 2025	deadline for submissions
June/July 2025	acceptances/rejections go out
August 15, 2025	first issue in series is published
November 15, 2025	second issue in series is published
February 15, 2026	third issue in series is published

Supporting Students to Write for *The Change Agent*

- Explore issues and read articles.
- Some articles are written by beginners. (I want more!)
- Students should write at ***their English level***. (Avoid Google translate.)
- Identify what makes a story engaging. Why?
- Write multiple drafts. Go deeper/share more.
- Use peer editing/feedback.
- Remember, many students will receive rejections.
- Students receive a \$50 gift card if published.



WINTER CONFERENCE

Thank you!

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To see our full winter conference schedule
and register for sessions:



Join us for The Big Share on March 4th