

Writing Handbooks Vs Writing Textbooks

People often wonder how the **Thoughtful Learning K-12 writing handbooks** differ from the **Write Source® K-12 writing textbooks***. After all, both teach the process and traits of writing, the major modes, listening and speaking, studying and test taking, and correct conventions. The same team developed both, and the same artist illustrated both.

The difference starts with handbooks vs. textbooks:

- **Handbooks** are portable guides designed for student-centered writing instruction in ELA classes and across the curriculum.
- **Textbooks** are omnibuses designed for teacher-centered writing instruction, chapter by chapter.

In addition, you'll note that the handbook line is fully revised, costs about half as much as the textbook line, and includes a free online *Teacher's Guide* with many additional downloads, activities, minilessons, and other free resources. You can see some of the other similarities and differences in the table below.

	Copyright Year	Average Softcover List Price	Average TG List Price	Leveled SkillsBooks	Common Core	Free Models, Activities, Downloads, Minilessons	Portability	Average Classroom Set: 25 Students (core texts, SkillsBooks, and TGs)
Thoughtful Learning Writing Handbook Program	2016 to Present	\$19.95	Free	Yes	CCSS Designed	Yes	About 500-600 pages, 6½" × 9"	\$840
Write Source® Writing Textbook Program	2009	\$44.00	\$121.70	Yes	CCSS Retrofitted	No	About 600-700 pages, 7" × 9¼"	\$1,500

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