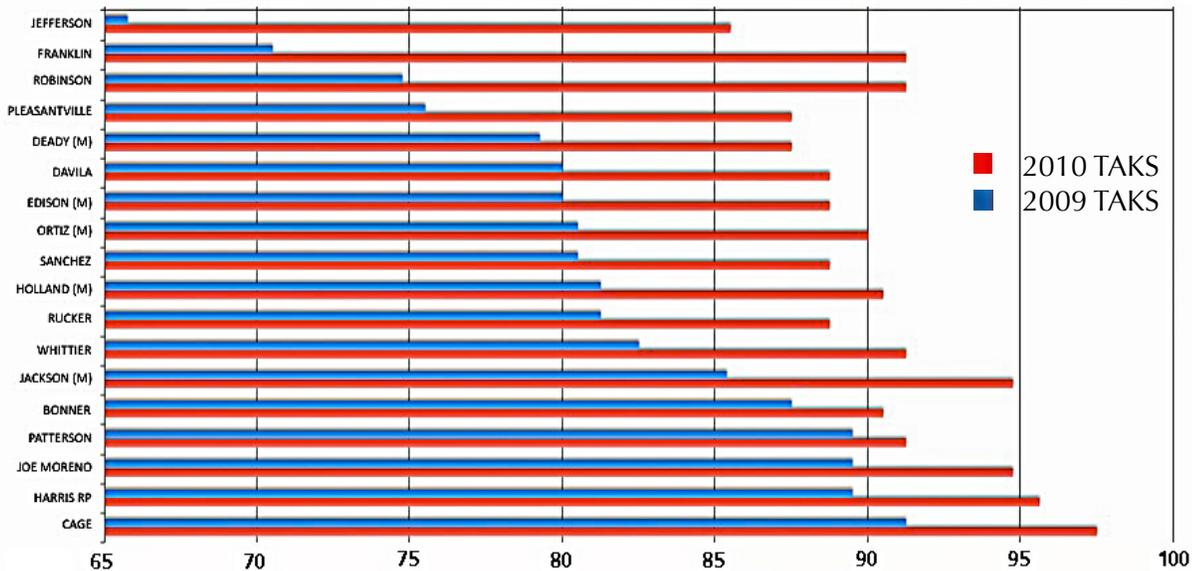


## Empowering Writers Approach To Improving Writing

### Low Performing Schools Raise Writing Scores an average of **11.3%** with Empowering Writers Approach to Improving Writing



In the 2009-2010 school year, the East Region administration of Houston ISD brought in Empowering Writers to improve student writing and test scores in 35 schools.

#### Background:

- Population of these schools consists of **94-99%** minority students.
- More than 50% of the East Region's 35 schools **ranked in the lower half of the entire district** in 2009.
- 9 of these low performing schools **ranked in the lowest 25%**.
- Needed Empowering Writers' approach to complement Houston ISD's existing writing program "**6+1 Traits of Writing**".

#### Results after 7 months:

- Students became better writers through learning specific skills.
- Teachers had clear strategies and lessons to correct writing deficiencies.
- Improved state test scores an average of more than **11% per school**.
- Improved commended performance on the state test an average of **35% per school**.

## Struggling with writing instruction? What do you do?

### Will more “theory” on the instruction of writing help your teachers?

We know most writing programs can help teachers identify good writing from poor writing. But few offer solutions that work in the “real world” classroom of low performing schools.

Over the past 13 years, Empowering Writers has developed a proven methodology that improves student writing and impacts test scores regardless of the economic disadvantages of the students or the size of the school district.

Even reluctant teachers of writing embrace the approach and in turn dramatically improve their quality of instruction.

**Empowering Writers’ methodology and resources are proven to be the most successful way to improve test scores.**

#### Empowering Writers’ Services

##### Pre Implementation

- ▶ Strategic planning for achieving short term and long term goals for writing instruction.
- ▶ Professional development sessions for Kindergarten - 8th grade.
- ▶ Comprehensive teacher resources by grade level.
- ▶ Response To Intervention resources with concrete strategies and lessons to correct specific deficiencies.
- ▶ 2 hour introductory presentation to district principals.

##### Post Implementation

- ▶ In classroom follow-up sessions with teachers to insure proper implementation.
- ▶ Monthly meeting with literacy coaches to insure proper implementation.
- ▶ Monthly Scope & Sequence bulletins to teachers for assured experiences.
- ▶ Monthly bulletins to curriculum team for monitoring implementation.
- ▶ Student writing sample assessment.
- ▶ Hundreds of free on-line teacher resources.

*Embraced by thousands of schools in districts like Charlotte-Mecklenburg in North Carolina, Houston ISD in Texas, and Greenwich Public Schools in Connecticut, Empowering Writers has the most effective methodology for improving student writing.*