

AUTHOR'S CRAFT

Author's Craft-the techniques a writer uses to make his or her writing interesting.

These are some techniques you will see when you read, and techniques you can use in your own writing to make it more interesting.

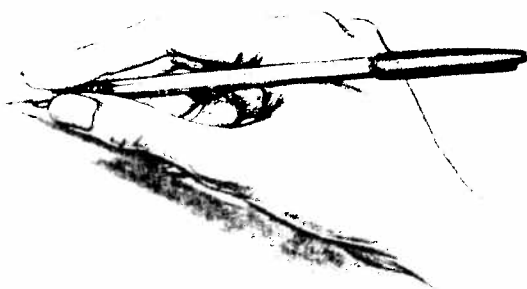
Show Don't Tell- writing details that show something. For example, instead of writing- *She was scared*. Show it by writing- *She sat in the corner trembling*.

Sensory Details-words that make the reader see, hear, feel, smell, or taste something. Example- Instead of- *The food was good*. Write- *The mountain of vanilla ice cream was covered with dark, chocolatey, hot fudge*.

Dialogue- Writing conversations. Instead of- *My mother was angry*. This is more interesting- *Mom shouted, "I want to know right now. Who broke my beautiful vase?"*

Thoughtshots-Words that show what the narrator is thinking or feeling. Example- *As I walked up to the ball field for the first time, I was really nervous. I wondered if I would be able to play as well as my teammates*.

Interesting vocabulary-precise nouns, vivid verbs. Instead of writing- *I took the cookie off the table and ate it*. Write- *I snatched the cookie off the table and gobbled it down!*



- humor
- exaggeration
- sarcasm
- voice
- simile / metaphor



asked
questioned
answered
rejected
offered
objected
screamed
yelled
shouted
whispered
continued
blurted
expressed
quoted
gaspd
sighed
huffed
moaned
screeched
bellowed
hummed
stated
agreed
argued
declared
demanded
puzzled
thought

read
announced
included
interrupted
teased
remarked
began
inquired
chuckled
laughed
coughed
sniffed
exclaimed
explained
mumbled
choked
comforted
decided
yawned
wailed
cried
ordered
described
chimed
corrected
snapped
shuddered
growled
replied
roared
admitted
scolded
interjected

grunted
repeated
chorused
sneered
snorted
added
cautioned
obeyed
advised
informed
hissed
confided
buzzed
squeaked
boasted
squawked
hissed
sung
chirped
touted
bragged
suggested
panted
whined
cheered
boomed
shouted
accused
scowled
thundered
pronounced
trembled
barked

discussed
assured
remembered
called
counseled
recommended
hinted
moaned
commented
finished
mentioned
reminded
started
seconded
chided
apologized
puffed
insisted
sobbed
cheered
concluded
complained
countered