

## Narrative Writing Techniques

### Monday

#### Key Techniques: Short, Memorable, and “Show don’t Tell”

#### The importance of writing short, memorable stories

1. **Short and memorable**
  - You have to keep the scope narrow.
  - Focus in on the action, but it’s ok to keep topic simple/mundane
2. **Showing instead of telling**
  - Think about creating moments for a reader rather than summarizing
  - Try sensory details
  - Try figurative language
  - Expand moments

Student Model #1 : H’s Hickory Chips

<https://k12.thoughtfullearning.com/studentmodels/h%E2%80%99s-hickory-chips>

### Tuesday

#### Key Techniques: Real dialogue/monologue and action

1. **Dialogue writing**
  - Use characters’ exact words to make your narrative more realistic
  - Make sure you make their words believable and put them in quotation marks
  - Start a new paragraph with each new speaker
  - You can also use internal monologue (character’s thoughts), which you italicize
2. **Dropping into the action**

- **Cut to the chase! You don't have a lot of pages, so start off with something interesting!**
- **You can use dialogue or monologue to begin**

Student Model #2: Huddling Together

<https://k12.thoughtfullearning.com/studentmodels/huddling-together>

## **Wednesday**

### **Key Techniques: Narrative arc and clear point**

- 1. Making sure there's a narrative arc**
  - **Your story should have a beginning, middle, end**
  - **You can play with the sequence!**
  
- 2. Ensuring the point is clearly made**
  - **What should the reader take away from your story?**
  - **You can state the point explicitly or let the story speak for itself, so long as point is clear**

Student Model #3: It's a Boy

<https://k12.thoughtfullearning.com/studentmodels/it%E2%80%99s-boy>