

Lesson 5: Share your Story

UNIT: Amusement Park

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, it's Margaret!

When I'm finishing a piece of writing, I don't get to the end and say, "Okay, all done." I read my writing over and over, looking for any parts I want to change. Sometimes, I write parts over and over, trying to get them exactly right.

You're getting ready to share a piece of writing. As a writer, you'll read your writing many times—each time, looking for one thing you might want to change.

I have some ideas about how you can make your writing the best that it can be. Here's my countdown of ways to get your writing ready to share.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Before we begin, you'll need a piece of writing that you're going to edit and get ready to share. Get the draft you're working on now.

STEP 2

Number 5: Punctuation!

Any time a character speaks, what they say needs to be in quotation marks, with a comma between the dialogue and the tag.

Where is the missing punctuation in this sentence?

STEP 3

The dialogue needs quotation marks and a comma.

Now, look through your writing. Check your dialogue for quotation marks and commas. Don't forget to check the ends of each sentence to make sure they end with punctuation. If any are missing, you can add them.

STEP 4

Number 4: Capitalization.

Every sentence needs to start with a capital letter.

Names of characters are proper nouns and need to be capitalized, even in the middle of a sentence.

Discuss: Where is the missing capital letter?

STEP 5

This letter needs to be capitalized, since it is a name.

Now, look through your writing.

Check the start of every sentence to make sure it begins with a capital letter. Check the names of your characters to make sure they're capitalized. If any are missing, you can change the letter.

STEP 6

Number 3: Spelling.

Discuss: Where is the spelling mistake in this sentence?

STEP 7

This word was spelled incorrectly.

Now, look at your writing.

Use all the spelling strategies you know to help you spell your words. You can also use resources in your room to help if you're not sure how to spell a word. If you see a misspelled word, you can fix your mistake.

STEP 8

Number 2: Check if it sounds right.

Discuss: What part of this sentence doesn't sound right? If you want, you can whisper-read the sentence to yourself.

STEP 9

This part doesn't sound right.

Now, read your writing to check to make sure it sounds right. You can read it in your head or whisper-read to yourself. If you find a part that doesn't sound right, you can fix your sentence.

STEP 10

Number 1: Recopy your work.

Your teacher will tell you where you'll write your final draft. When you recopy your writing, you might find parts that don't make sense, or other parts you want to change. You can make changes as you recopy.

Get the papers you will need to recopy onto, then take your time to make your writing the neatest it can be.

NATURAL STOPPING POINT

Teachers: This is a natural stopping point. The next steps will guide students through the short story festival: StoryFest! If students wrote digitally, we recommend printing student work before moving on. If you stop here, be sure to put all the V.I.P.s somewhere safe!

If you're continuing right now, go to the next slide.

STEP 11

StoryFest is about to begin!

You'll set up your story to be one of the showcase stories for the day. Then, you'll read the other stories at StoryFest today.

Before you participate in the festival, you can set up your desk to display your story. You'll make a paper Title Tent that lets your classmates know the title and author of your story. You can also include a picture.

To get ready, get these supplies.

STEP 12

Get your Title Tent worksheet.

Come up with a title for your story and write on the line. Write your name in the author blank.

STEP 13

Draw a picture that shows a part of your story. You can choose any moment in your story to draw. Your teacher will tell you how much drawing time you have. You can finish drawing later if you need more time.

STEP 14

Fold your Title Tent in half by flipping it over and folding on the center dotted line so the words and pictures are on the outside, like this. Line up the corners on both sides before pressing down. Run your fingernail along the edge to make a good crease.

STEP 15

Unfold your paper.

Fold on the other two dotted lines in the same way—with the words and picture on the outside.

When you're done, your paper should have three folds.

STEP 16

Hold your worksheet from the center fold. Bring the bottom two flaps together and overlap them to form a triangle, like this. It doesn't matter which flap is on the inside. You can pinch the bottom of the triangle with your fingers to help hold it in place.

STEP 17

Use a paperclip on each side to secure the bottom of the triangle. Your Tent should stand up on its own with the paperclips on the bottom.

STEP 18

Set up your desk for others to read your story. Place the Title Tent behind your story and your story in front. So others can see the title and picture for your story as they begin to read.

STEP 19

It's time to begin StoryFest!

To celebrate all the writing in this room, find another story to read. You can take a look at the Title Tents to help you choose which story to read next.

Your teacher will tell you how much time you'll have to walk around and read amazing amusement park stories.

STEP 20

Wow, writers, this year's StoryFest was amazing!

Hopefully, you got to read some fun stories that all take place at the amusement park. You can continue to share your writing with others at home, school, or in your community.

Keep looking for inspiration for your next story. Story ideas are happening all around you. I'll see you next time!