

Writing Lessons

Tuesday:

Well, well ,well...we meet again.

Review the different elements we have worked on in writing class. We have worked on realistic dialogue, adding in emotion to our scenes, creating relatable and genuine characters that feel real. Take 7-10 minutes to review your old and already completed writing pieces in your google doc folder.

Today you will complete a scene (1.5-2 pages) which will include the following:

- A main character
- A secondary character
- Realistic dialogue between them
- The secondary character causes a problem

You will revisit this scene OR a scene you will write on Wednesday later in the week to revise and submit for a grade. You should be writing in Times new roman, size 12 and double spaced. Your goal is 1.5-2 pages, but if you use a lot of dialogue you should write more since dialogue skips lines. Use your mature judgment. I will be stopping in to comment and revise and offer support.

Take your time and do it well kids!

Thursday:

Welcome back to Writing. The body paragraphs that were completed by some of you were very good.

Today's writing goes back to scene writing.

Review the different elements we have worked on.. Take 7-10 minutes to review your old and already completed writing pieces in your google doc folder. Today you will complete a scene (1.5-2 pages) which will include the following:

- A setting that creates an issue
- Two characters that do not get along and are forced to

Notice that the first piece of criteria is a setting that creates a problem. This ties directly into your reading lesson from yesterday- settings can cause problems or lead to conflict.

Consider this: Would you worry about being attacked by a shark while out in the woods with friends hiking? Exactly- no way. Why? Because the setting does not allow for that. Sometimes problems that arise in a story are the direct result of the setting in which a story takes place.

Use this idea to form your scene today.

Friday:

At this point you have written two scenes for the week. Today you will decide which is your best and will revise and edit that one for submission.

1. Whatever scene you choose to submit (you must have written 2 already- if not, do the second one today) highlight the title of your scene in a color other than black AFTER you make the revisions- this will tell me you are ready to be scored
2. Revisions: You need to make 4 revisions that are more than just adding a word or two. We are talking about ACTUAL improvements. Recognizing the sentence fluency is not strong and rewording it. Seeing that you had little to no setting so you went in and added areas/pockets of setting throughout. You recognized the character development was not strong so you added and rephrased parts so your characters were liked or disliked on purpose.
3. HIGHLIGHT these changes so they are visible. WHATEVER you fix, make it a different color or highlighted

Email me if you have any questions regarding these assignments. It is not a bad idea to have another classmate help you out on this- read each others and get some feedback.

Monday, March 23-

Welcome back to writing. Many of you wrote some good scenes last week. I did grade and evaluate them, your scores are in a comments box on the side. Scores are out of 20 and the criteria is listed for how it was scored. Those that completed their writing did very well. Many of us are not keeping up.

Team, listen, this is the state's guidelines. You NEED to be doing it daily. I'm hearing excuses left and right for why we can't do it and it's ridiculous. You NEED to. I will be contacting Mr. Palombo daily to give him updates (state says I have to) and if your work isn't being completed, it will be him calling home to chat with your parents. **This is not meant as a threat-** I just need you to understand the severity of the situation we are all in. We (me included) have a lot to do in order to prove to New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy that we do not need to make up school days.

Lesson: A thesis statement states your claim AND the reasons in which you will prove it all in one sentence.

We are still struggling with this idea. A thesis statement is a single idea that states your opinion of the topic and why you have that opinion. The three reasons you give will also be your three body paragraph main ideas. Look below:

Topic: Is Mibs a good person after all the trouble she had caused?

My thesis: Mibs is a good person throughout Savvy based on how much she cares for her family, the responsibility she took for protecting people and the fact she used her power for good.

Notice that in my thesis I do not EXPLAIN my ideas yet. I will explain them when I write about them. The thesis is the last part of your opening paragraph. First you have a hook and then you add in a transition sentence or two. Lastly, you finish with your thesis statement and that tells the reader exactly where you stand AND what you will prove- and it does this in ONE SENTENCE!

Assignment: Generate 3 different thesis statements for the topics I have listed below. Ensure your thesis has 3 ideas to support your opinion and is only one sentence long.

1. Mibs is not a good friend
2. Bobbi Meeks does or does not change in the story
3. Savvy is a story with many themes. Discuss them. (For this one, write a thesis that states a few themes from Savvy)

Wednesday March 25

GO TO GOOGLE CLASSROOM- all assignments and videos will be there!