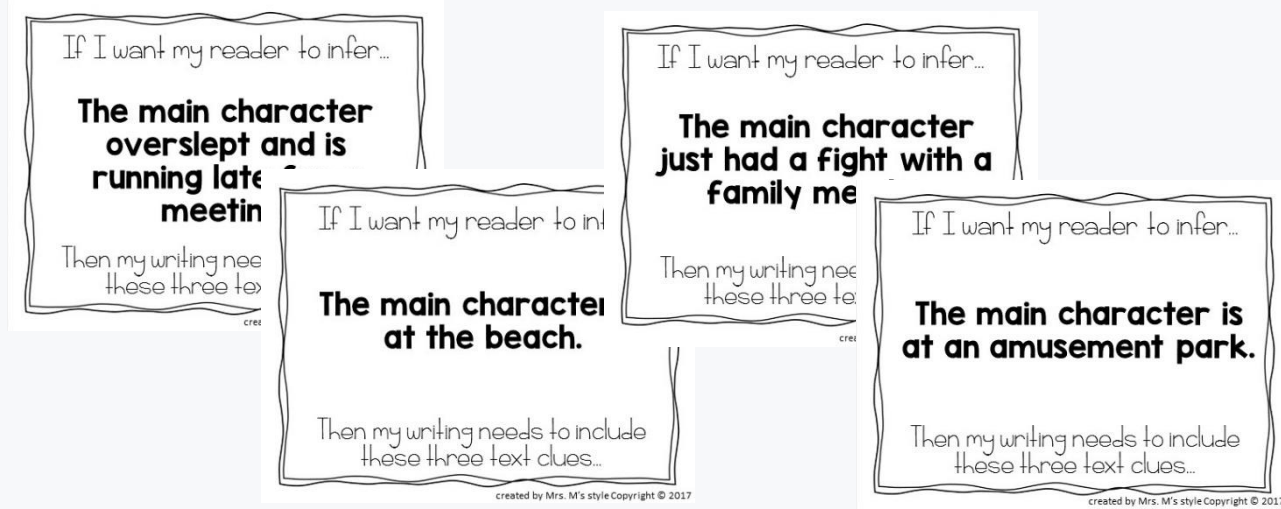


Show, Not Tell



36 writing task cards to help your students add vivid details to their writing.

Directions:

1. Print off the task cards and writing template.
2. Each student gets a copy of the writing template and a writing task card.
3. Students read the writing task cards and figure out what they are trying to get their reader to infer.
4. Students write down the three most important text clues that would help the reader make that specific inference.
5. Students will write a short story or paragraph to include the text clues.
6. Students can read their writing to the class and see if their peers are able to make the correct inference from their writing.

Name: _____

Student Writing Template

My writing needs to include theses
three text clues...

1.

2.

3.

My Short Story

If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character is
at the beach.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character
overslept and is
running late for a
meeting.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character
just had a fight with a
family member.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character is
at an amusement park.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character is
baking cookies.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character is
going to a birthday
party.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character is
eating overcooked
broccoli.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character is
nervous about the first
day of school.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character just won first place in a race.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character doesn't like going to school.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is being bullied at school.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character forgot to study for a big test.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

There is a crazy rain storm going on outside.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The temperature outside is 100 degrees.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The temperature outside is 0 degrees.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

It is Halloween and kids are trick-or-treating.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

It is Thanksgiving.

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

It is Christmas morning.

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

It is New Years Eve.

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**It is the last day of
school.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is feeling happy.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is feeling angry.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is feeling excited.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is feeling nervous.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is feeling depressed.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is feeling anxious.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is feeling embarrassed.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character is feeling exhausted.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character
learned an important
lesson.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character
misjudged a student in
their class.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character
worked really hard to
achieve a goal.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

**The main character is
feeling confident.**

Then my writing needs to include
these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character forgot their mom's birthday.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character made a huge mistake and is regretful.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character loves watching football.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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If I want my reader to infer...

The main character lost a hundred dollar bill.

Then my writing needs to include these three text clues...

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