

# More Show Don't Tell / IMAGERY Examples from Practice Activity #2

## USE:

- **Senses** (onomatopoeia is good way to include sounds)
- **Details**
- **Strong Diction**  
(powerful verbs and descriptive adjectives)
- **SUSPENSE** – Throw the reader in the action and **SLOWLY REVEAL** the who / what / where when

# Show Don't Tell

- **Bad Example:** I nervously walked into the room.
- **STRONG Example:** I blindly groped the wall with no light switch in range. A cold sweat draped my face. I inched forward ever so slowly scared of what I might find. Two venomous eyes stared unwavering back at me. I froze; the air was thick with fear. Silence drowned out all other noise. The menacing eyes broke the silence with a soft, timid meow.

“Oh God!” I thought, “What a sweet kitten!”

# Show Don't Tell

**Bad Example:** I went to the dance. I was very nervous. I almost couldn't catch my breath.

**GOOD Example:** Overwhelmed by the loud music and flashing vibrant colored lights, I took that last step into the crowd. The constant bumping and shoving made me feel like a leaf clinging to a branch in the fall breeze. My breath hitched and my throat tightened as the fear of masses of people overcame me. In an attempt to catch my breath, I meandered towards the door questioning why I let my friend convince me to come to this school dance.