

FULL Names _____

Hour _____

Imagery Group Assignment

I Think I Can, I Think I Can / Small Group Practice Activity

Don't be psyched out by this imagery assignment. You can do it! Here are some tricks to showing and not telling.

- **SHOW DON'T TELL** –Reveal slowly, create **SUSPENSE** – do **NOT** tell the who, where, what right away
 - Use your **senses** (sight, smell, taste, touch, and hearing) to describe what the characters, setting, and events were like.
 - Include **details, details, details** (droplets and small ice crystals slid down the Diet Coke I clenched in my trembling hand)
 - Take some time to create **interesting word choices**. AVOID words like good, bad, fun, happy, etc. etc. You don't have to use huge words that you're not familiar with. Just put a little time and thought into your word choices. You can use a thesaurus, but select words from it that are interesting but that you know. Instead of pretty try exquisite or breath-taking. Instead of saying green say emerald.
 - Use interesting, original, developed forms of **figurative language** such similes, metaphors, or personification but AVOID clichés which are phrases we heard several times before. Example: Mrs. Rottier's reassurance was a refreshing rain that poured down on me and instilling a new sense of confidence and optimism.
- Hint: when you write a simile it's best if you develop it and explain HOW the two things are alike. Example: The sugar cookies taste like cappuccino in the dead of winter, warming you from the inside out.

BAD example / Telling:

I was playing basketball in my driveway.

GOOD example / Showing:

Thump. Thump. Thump. The basketball levitated into the palm of my hand before being plummeted into the pavement. Cradling the basketball in my sweating palm, I eyed the silver sphere before launching the ball to the towering target.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT ALL of the examples of similes and imagery online; they will help you too.

TIME TO PRACTICE IN YOUR SMALL GROUP. Use the tips above to use imagery to transform the following sentences. The examples are telling. Use imagery to transform them into showing. You will have to use MULTIPLE sentences to fully create the image. **TURN OVER YOUR PAGE**

WORK YOUR MAGIC! Be sure to PROOFREAD and write NEATLY.

Example: #1 (only select ONE)

I screamed as the hammer hit my hand.

See next pg

Example #2 (only select ONE)

I was so sad when my grandma died.

Example #3: (only select ONE)

I played volleyball.

See next pg

STUDENT SAMPLES:

I SCREAMED AS THE HAMMER HIT MY HAND CHANGED TO:

Mistaking my frail hand for a measly nail, without caution I thrashed the solid steel upon my now throbbing, blood-blistered flesh. The horror was evident as the blood curdling shrill yelp escaped from my now swelling throat.

OR

Thump, thump, thump. The hammer lazily rose and fell continuing its repetitive tasks. I labored on wishing deeply that something, anything would happen to add a spark of excitement to the task. Something did. With the force of mighty Thor the ancient tool collided with my flesh pulverizing the skeletal frame to a fine dust. My eyes watered holding back a torrent of tears. I could almost taste the dull iron of blood roaring out of the wound as my shriek split the air.

I was so sad when my grandma died. CHANGED TO:

The whiskey drizzled down her crimson colored throat, her face beaded with diamond sweat. The look on her face told a secret. The world paused as her limp body slithered like slime to the floor. Her body lay unconscious in a rusty pool of blood. As her spirit was lifted to the pearly gates of heaven, her quivering grandson lay heaving sobs on the floor.

See next pg

OR

Trying to understand the broken words spilling from her breathless sobs, caused my heart to drop and leaving me w/ an empty, chilling sensation deep within my chest. Her words pulsed through my mind like a skill shattering earthquake ripping through a small lifeless town. "Grandma's gone." Countless emotions flooded into my deserted corpse. Sorrow. Dispare and overwhelming disbelief. My eyes swelled w/ the need to release the pain built up in tears behind my eyes.

OR

It was a cold, cloudy day and the ground was soaked with the early morning dew and the tears of an entire town. The black suits and dresses cloaked the area in darkness as the desolate, black coffin was lowered into the deep grave like a feather floating down from the gray, depressing sky. Not a word crept from anyone's lips. I told myself I would not cry, but I felt this lump in the back of my throat that I felt involuntarily leap from the depths of my throat, creating an obnoxious whining sob that would indicated my immense sorrow, for this was the first time I could accept my grandmother's death.

