



## Step 5: Show, Don't Tell

### Justine Costigan and Carrie Hutchinson – Travel Writers

Before watching Justine and Carrie's interview, discuss what you know about using Step 5: Show, Don't Tell in informative writing.

Now watch the video and use the following questions to prompt discussion as a whole class or in groups.

#### Discussion Questions

1. What is the purpose of a travel article, and is there more than one purpose?
2. Why is Show, Don't Tell important in the travel articles that Justine and Carrie write?
3. What techniques do Justine and Carrie use to 'show' rather than 'tell' in their writing?
4. What tips does Justine give for writing an effective travel article?
5. Have you been to any of the places that Justine and Carrie described?
6. Did their descriptions make you want to visit any of those places? If so, why?
7. Justine and Carrie give several examples of 'show' scenes from their work. Which was your favourite and why?
8. According to Justine, what type of experiences make good material for a travel article?
9. Have you had an experience while travelling that would make a good 'show' scene?
10. Did you get any ideas about how you could use Show, Don't Tell in your own writing? If so, what were they?

#### FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITY

Replay one of the following 'show' scene examples:

- Mumbai, India – 04:27
- Delhi, India – 07:15
- Iran – 09:00

Ask students to form small groups and give each group a copy of the 'Five + 1 Senses' template. Get students to brainstorm what they might see, hear, touch, taste, smell and feel (emotions) if they were there in that moment. Working individually, students write their own 'show' scene based on the group brainstorm.