



## Step 6: Ban the Boring

# Jo Stewart – Author and Editor

Before watching Jo Stewart's interview, discuss what you know about using Step 6: Ban the Boring 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. Editing is not just about checking spelling and grammar – what else does the role of editor entail?
2. Was there anything in Jo's description of what an editor does that surprised you?
3. What is the first thing Jo does when she edits someone else's work, and why?
4. How is Jo's approach different when she edits her own work?
5. Why does Jo feel that it is important to leave time to review your work at the end?
6. What advice does Jo give to help edit your own work?
7. What tips does Jo give for writing to a deadline?
8. According to Jo, what role do the creative brain and the logical brain play when writing and editing a text?
9. Did Jo mention any editing techniques that you were unfamiliar with? If so, what?
10. Did you get any ideas about things you could do differently when writing and editing your own work? If so, what were they?

### FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITY

Ask students to find an informative text that they have written recently. Get students to think of someone specific who might read this text, e.g. a parent, grandparent, or friend. Ask students to try putting themselves in that person's shoes when they read the text. Will they understand it? Will they laugh or be moved by it? What could you add or change to make them more engaged?