



Step 5: Show, Don't Tell

Susanne Gervay – Author

Before watching Susanne Gervay's video, discuss what you know about using Step 5: Show, Don't Tell in narrative writing.

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

Discussion Questions

1. Why does Susanne Gervay say that Show, Don't Tell can be tricky for writers?
2. Susanne reads a scene from *Being Jack* about a boy whose grandfather has died. Why is this scene better than simply telling us that Jack was really sad?
3. Do you think showing the reader makes the story more interesting? Why?
4. Look for examples of Show, Don't Tell in a favourite book or movie. Do you think the writer did a good job? Why or why not?
5. Try writing a story with a character who is the meanest, nastiest person in the world. What are some ways that you can *show* that they're mean, without telling the reader directly?