Literacy task 3

Up levelling sentences

Up levelling is all about changing boring, general simple and compound sentences into interesting complex sentences that include precise detail. Higher level writing also creates a mood and can include figurative writing.

Examples

Imagine what you are writing is a photograph or film. Long shot - general information, medium shot - more information, - close up shot, precise detail. Your writing should always be a mixture of all of these to make it interesting.

Think about precise vocabulary:

Example 1: A man went into the park.

• A man (an old, ancient, young, scruffy, angry, weary, smart) ... even better, give him a name and show what he is like in the way you write:

Stuffing his rough, wrinkled hands into his threadbare grey coat, his cap pulled down over his ancient eyes, Jack sat on the bench in Rose Park ... and waited.

Example 2: The car drove down the road.

- You can change the order of the sentence for impact and effect.
- Who? Be more specific give precise detail
- What? Add detail to the way it travelled on road
- Where? What sort of Road? Where was it?
- When? When was this taking place?
- Why? Give it context why is this interesting?
- How? How exactly is it moving?

At the crack of dawn, the polished, red Ferrari sped erratically along the steep, narrow and winding mountain road. Geoffrey Fox was in a hurry.

Now have a go at up levelling a sentence or two:

• A boy climbed in the tree









• The snake hissed







He opened the door



Who is he? Can you describe this door in detail? Was he inside or outside? Does he live here, or is he visiting? Is he friend or foe?