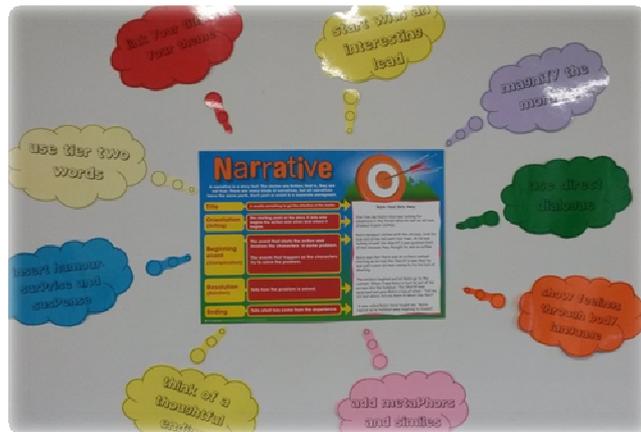


# Narrative Techniques in the Upper Primary Classroom

The UP students have been learning about narrative writing techniques to enhance the quality of their work. The techniques we have been practising this term include:

- \*Starting with an interesting lead
- \*Magnifying the moment
- \*Using direct dialogue
- \*Showing feelings through body language
- \*Adding metaphors and similes
- \*Using tier two vocabulary
- \*Using suspense and humour
- \*Thinking of a thoughtful ending.



**Below are some examples of students' writing which include both the students' first drafts, and their revised version, to include one or more of the techniques studied in class.**

"We arrived at the Uluru Caravan Park. We rushed to set up the caravan so we could go up to the lookout."

- Revised to include an interesting and suspenseful lead, by **Wil Scanlon**.

*"I was terrified, I didn't want to lose him. What did I do to deserve this? I was only young. My brother, lost."*

"I looked all over the house for my brother's teddy and it was on the bunk bed in my room."

- Revised to include the "magnify the moment" technique, by **Wade Blatchford**.

*"I looked all over the house, I was yelling in my head: "Where is this teddy?" Finally I found Big Ted staring at me as I walked into my bedroom."*

"No!" I screamed. "I'm not going to netball!"

- Revised to include an interesting setting lead, by **Eliza Harding**.

*"I wound down the window and stuck my head out. As I felt the wind in my hair I sighed... I'd have to do netball training..."No!" I screamed when I popped my head back into the car "I'm not going to netball!"*

"I was getting so angry that I hit my racquet on the ground and it snapped."

- Revised to include "feelings shown through body language" technique, as well as tier two vocabulary, by **Saige Perry**.

*"I could feel my face getting more and more red and hot. I hit my tennis racquet on my shoe a couple of times. I threw an easy ball that went "smack!" into the net. I was getting so angry that I hit my racquet on the ground and it shattered."*

## Upper Primary Narratives continued.

"I bet you can't jump off the slide!" I challenged my sister. "Can too!" she replied climbing up the slide. She jumped. She landed safely."

- Revised to include similes and tier two vocabulary, **by Harry Harding.**

*"I bet you can't jump off the slide!" I challenged my daring sister. "Can too!" she replied boldly. So she sprinted to the slide and sprang up it with the speed of a spider monkey climbing up a tree. And she landed with the ease of a gibbon that had jumped from a tree branch to the ground. I walked over to her and was greeted by a grinning face that told me she was alright."*

"I couldn't watch. "That is one less dog," I said horrified."

- Revised version includes a thoughtful ending, **by Sam Birchmore.**

*"As much as it hurts me to say this, Maddie was in pain and it is for the best, but that doesn't change the fact that we have one less dog!" I said with tears in my eyes and a mumbling voice.*

"I heard a door close and helped Papa get Patty out, what an excited dog! He jumped out from the back of the Ute and ran around taking in this new place."

- Revised to include an interesting lead, **by Ella Davies.**

*"Woof, woof!" I heard the dogs from outside barking madly. This told me that someone was driving down the driveway. Instantly I ran outside. "Hey!" I say to Papa, (my grandpa) as he picked up patty and put him on the ground."*

"From then on I can't remember a time that I have jumped on a bed."

- Revised to include humour, **by Piper Storck.**

*"From then on I can't remember a time that I have jumped on a bed. Well, I know that I never jumped off Maddie's bed ever again!"*

"One day I was at the Aquatic Centre where I was at a party."

- Revised to include suspense, **by Harrison Millard.**

*"Before I was about to finish, I saw it in the corner of my eye... it looked like a child was going to... but before I continue, I have to tell you this story. And let me tell you it may not be pleasant!"*

"I ran into a hay bale. When I hit it I was in shock."

- Revised to show feelings through body language, **by Harry Robinson.**

*"I jumped out of the buggy quicker than you can say "bang!" My heart was pumping out of my chest, and straight away I contacted Dad on the UHF."*