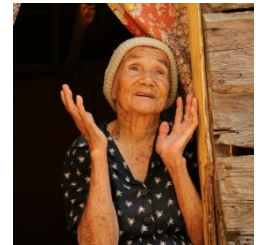


Reading for Information: *The Art of Storytelling*

Strategy Focus: *Predicting, Marking the Text, Rereading, Paraphrasing*

Why do we tell stories?

People have always shared stories. People share stories with their family and friends. People share stories with their tribe. Storytelling has been around since we invented language. All people around the world tell stories. Stories connect us to each other and to the past.



All cultures around the world tell stories.

There are many reasons we tell stories. We tell stories to entertain our friends. We might tell a friend about something we saw that was funny. We also tell stories to explain who we are. We might tell a friend a story about our past. We might also tell a story to show how we are feeling. If something happened to make us feel sad or happy we might tell that story. Then our friends understand why we are feeling sad or happy.

How are oral stories different from written stories?

Telling a story is different from writing a story. Here are some ways telling a story is different from writing a story:

- There are not as many rules when you tell a story. For example, you do not have to worry about your paragraphs and margins.
- When you tell a story it doesn't sound as formal as written stories. When you tell a story it will sound the way you talk.
- You can use your body and your face when you tell a story. You can also use your voice in different ways. This makes the story come alive.
- When you tell a story you have a live audience. You can see how the audience responds to your story.

The Art of Storytelling

Telling a good story is an art. It takes skill and imagination. You can learn certain skills to become a better story teller. Here are some of those skills:

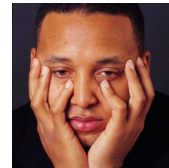
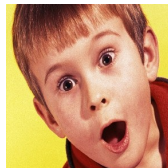
Use of Voice

Storytellers use expression when they talk. This means they change the way their voice sounds. This is important because it makes the story more interesting.

When you tell a story, you can make your voice sound many different ways. You can sound sad, tired and angry. You can also be quiet or loud to show a mood. The way you use your voice will show emotion. You can also use your voice to sound the way a character talks. You might use a tiny voice for a mouse and a big voice for a giant. You might even try using an accent to sound like you are from a different place. Using your voice will make the story come alive.

Facial Expression

Storytellers use their faces when they tell a story. When you tell a story you can change the expression on your face. Look at these faces. Imagine these people are telling a story. What might be happening in the story?



Body Movement and Gesture

Storytellers also use their bodies to tell a story. You can add movement to your story. You can move fast or slow. You can use your arms and your legs. Even hands can make your story come alive.

