

TIPS FOR TEACHING WRITING

1. ALLOW CHOICES.

Students are much more engaged when writing about something they are interested in or passionate about.

2. ENCOURAGE COMFORT.

In my experience, being comfortable while writing helps creativity flow.

3. HELP THEM EXPERIMENT.

Not everyone works best cycling through the same process. Some may prefer to knock out an entire piece & revise at the end, while others may want to revise as they go.

4. WRITE WITH THEM. You won't get it unless you do it.

5. HAVE EMPATHY.

Writing is challenging, frustrating, & can feel soul-crushing at times. But you already knew that (see #4).

6. DON'T OVERSCAFFOLD.

Those graphic organizers & your constant support (while well-intentioned) can often detract from students finding their own voices.

7. FOCUS ON THE BEAUTY.

Writing is a beautiful expression of voice. Tell them, show them, & help them discover it for themselves.