

Introducing VOICE Lesson; What is voice? What does it look like in writing?

1. Do Now:

Write down three ways that you can express your “voice” without using words: Think about ways that you communicate your personality or mood to others...

Example – I express my zany Irish side by dying my hair green every now and then.

2. Share out Do Now ideas with the class, write them on the board.

3. Define voice for students & have them write the following in their notes:

VOICE:

- show, not tell details
- audience awareness
- emotion/mood
- individuality
- connection to topic
- authenticity/sincerity

4. Color code the elements of voice or assign a symbol for each

5. Find two short examples of writing, one that exemplifies strong voice, and one that does not. Have the students read aloud the two sample papers to each other.

5. Ask students, how did the piece with strong voice affect you compared to the one with less voice?

6. Now ask students to go back to the piece with that shows strong voice and have them code their papers (using the colors or symbols) to show where exactly they saw the elements of voice. Share out as a class

7. Ask students to reflect: why do we care about voice?

Some reasons to care:

-Sincerity of the author makes his/her points more credible

-Strong voice makes writing more engaging and easier to read.

-When the author’s voice is tailored to the audience of the piece, the argument will pack more of a punch.