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| **WORD CHOICE****Example of what I could ask the writer:***What would happen if you changed that word to another word?* **Example of what I could ask the reader:** *What did you think about this choice of word?* **Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I chose the word ‘wolf’ to show that the dog is fierce and wild*  | **DETAIL****Example of what I could ask the writer:***What kind of shoes would she wear? And would they be shiny and clean or scuffed and scruffy?***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *What did the description make you think about the character?***Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I wanted the character to have shiny shoes so that the reader would think of her as being very clean and proper* |
| **SENTENCE STRUCTURE****Example of what I could ask the writer:***When I read this sentence, I see the mountain first and then the polar bear – was that what you wanted me to see? If not, how could you move things around so it is the polar bear I see first?* **Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Do you think this sentence is effective in getting the reader to imagine the mountain first..?***Example of what I could say as the writer :** *I structured my sentence this way because I wanted the reader to imagine the mountain first, then the polar bear - so the polar bear is emerging out of the mountains…* | **CLICHE****Example of what I could ask the writer:***Saying ‘as green as grass’ is something we hear or read lots so I don’t think it creates a very strong image. What kind of green is it? What do you want to make your reader see, or hear or feel? Can you think of a simile for green that will be fresher and more original?***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Do you think this simile could be better? Or could I replace the simile with something else?***Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I could describe the green as something like ‘emerald green’ instead, to…* *I want to keep the simile ‘green as grass’ because I wanted to create a simple image that…* |
| **RHYTHM****Example of what I could ask the writer:***I love the way that the two halves of that sentence balance each other – it gives the sentence a lovely balanced rhythm. Read it aloud – can you hear it?***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *What impression do you get from the alliteration I’ve used here?* **Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I chose to write a long sentence with lots of food items listed one after the other, chained together with ‘and’, to create a rhythm that gives the impression of endless items going through the til…* | **TENSE****Example of what I could ask the writer:***What would happen if you rewrote that paragraph in the present tense? What would change about how you story is being told?***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Do you think writing this in the present tense makes the action feel more immediate?* **Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I chose to write in the present tense so that the reader feels the action is happening there and then in front of them* |
| **REPETITION****Example of what I could ask the writer:***Let’s listen to those three sentences – the repetition of ‘I am’ at the beginning of each one makes me feel I am right alongside your character.***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *What do you think about the repetition of ‘I am’ at the beginning of these sentences?***Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I chose to repeat ‘I am’ at the beginning of the sentence to make the reader feel like they’re close to me* |  |
| **NARRATIVE STRUCTURE****Example of what I could ask the writer:***When I read the first page of your story, I was wondering what’s the story problem here? What needs to be sorted as the story develops?***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *What did you think about the ending and how it links back to the start?* **Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I wanted to end with the lost girl speaking because this links back to the start, to show that she’s not lost anymore*  | **CHARACTER****Example of what I could ask the writer:***In the first part of your story, you described the dragon as a dragon who didn’t like fire. I really liked that because it was so odd! But here, he seems to be back to being a ‘normal’ dragon – how could you develop that idea of a dragon who doesn’t like fire?***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Let’s look at this paragraph here describing the dragon…what do you think about this idea?***Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I liked the idea of a dragon who doesn’t like fire because it surprises the reader – it’s the opposite of what we expect from a dragon* |
| **VIEWPOINT****Example of what I could ask the writer:***What would happen if, instead of you telling the story as a narrator, you told it from the father’s point of view?***Example of what I could ask the reader**: *How do you think this would change if I told the story from a different character’s point of view?***Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I chose to tell the story from the narrator’s point of view so that the reader would ‘see’ the father through different eyes* | **SHOW NOT TELL****Example of what I could ask the writer:***I’m really interested in your cat character, Grimble. You tell me he is grumpy and bad-tempered. I wonder if you can think of a way to describe Grimble that will show me he is grumpy and bad-tempered?* **Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Have you got any ideas about how I could make this cat seem grumpy? What did the cat’s name make you think?* **Example of what I could say as the writer :** *I chose the name ‘Grimble’ because it sounds like ‘Grumble’ and the cat is supposed to be very grumpy and grumbly*  |
| **DIALOGUE****Example of what I could ask the writer:***You have a really long section of dialogue here – almost a page. What do you want the dialogue to reveal or explain in terms of your story? Do you think you could do that in just two or three exchanges of dialogue?***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Were you able to follow the dialogue? Is there anything I could take out or say differently do you think?* **Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I wanted the dialogue to show something about the relationship between the speakers…* |  |
| **ENGAGING THE READER****Example of what I could ask the writer:***I was really gripped by what you wrote here. Perhaps it was because you…**I was less gripped by this part of what you wrote. Perhaps you could e.g. add in some dialogue to really bring the scene alive; use a different tense, like the present tense…***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Do you think these sentences here are effective in building up a sense of excitement? Could I do anything differently?* **Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I wrote a sequence of short sentences here describing the action to build up tension, but I didn’t want to include dialogue because I thought it would change the atmosphere*  | **HELPING THE READER UNDERSTAND****Example of what I could ask the writer:***I didn't completely understand what was happening here. Perhaps you could work on e.g. how to make the sentences more concise***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Do you understand what’s happening here? What do you think the character is like?***Example of what I could say as the writer:** I was trying to explain a sequence of events in detail here… |
| **AFFECTING THE READER****Example of what I could ask the writer:***When I read this I felt e.g. sad, scared, amused. Perhaps that’s because you e.g. ’show not tell’ the reader how the character feels by describing…***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *How do you think the character feels here?* *How do you feel at this moment?* **Example of what I could say as the writer:** *I used these words because I wanted the reader to feel sorry for the character* | **DRAWING ON READING****Example of what I could ask the writer:***This reminds me of a book…***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Does this remind you of this character?* **Example of what I could say as the writer :** *I was thinking about a character from this book when I wrote this description* |
| **AUTHORIAL INTENTION****Example of what I could ask the writer:***How do you want to make your reader think when they read this?***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *What do you think of when you read this?* **Example of what I could say as the writer :** *I wanted my reader to be reminded of…* | **DRAWING ON EXPERIENCE****Example of what I could ask the writer:***Can you think of a situation where something similar to this has happened to you?* **Example of what I could ask the reader:** *Did this make you think of anything in particular?* **Example of what I could say as the writer:** *Here, I was thinking about my own memories of being in school and this helped me to imagine…* |
| **REVIEWING AND REVISING****Example of what I could ask the writer:***Which words/sentences/sections are you happy with and which do you think need revising?* *So let’s look at how you have used [… e.g. repetition; detail; tense; structure; viewpoint…]***Example of what I could ask the reader:** *What do you think about the way I’ve…would you change anything?***Example of what I could say as the writer:***I think I move too suddenly from describing the scene to the story problem, so I need to develop that…*  |  |