Reflexive Writing
What is reflexive writing?

- Writing that focuses on a belief or idea about life that is important to the writer
- It’s personal!
What types of writing fall into this category?

- Biography:
- Autobiography:
- Memoir:
- Poem:
SENSORY
DETAIL
Sensory detail is...

- Writing that appeals to the five senses
  - Taste
  - Touch
  - Smell
  - Sight
  - Sound
Examples of sensory detail:

- The screams of “aughhs” and “eeks” floated over me as I waited nervously to ride the Goliath.

- The *screams of “aughhs” and “eeks” floated* over me as I waited nervously to ride the Goliath.

- The sun, burning bright, sliced through the air and burned my skin while I frantically reapplied more sunscreen.

- The sun, burning bright, *sliced through the air and burned my skin* while I frantically reapplied more sunscreen.
My Nickname:
Starting out right: How to write a good lead

- Begin with action!
- Start with dialogue – put your reader in the situation right away.
- Start with a noise – “Bam!” “Clunk!”
- Begin with a shocking statement that makes the reader say “What???” and want to continue reading because he/she is curious!
  - Ex: From *The Lovely Bones* by Alice Sebold
    - “My name was Salmon, like the fish; first name, Susie. I was fourteen when I was murdered on December 6, 1973.”
- Start with a famous quote
- Start with a statistic or a fact
“Once upon a time,…”

“My name is _____, and I want to write about…”

“I am going to tell you about a time…”

“I hope you like this; I didn’t know what to do…”