**Show-Don’t-Tell**

*Don't tell me the moon is shining; show me the glint of light on broken glass.*  
- Anton Chekov

“Writing that tells is general [and] doesn’t show the reader pictures and images,” but in writing that shows the reader sees “what is being talked about as though viewing a picture…The writer’s pen is his or her brush that is used to make everything come alive” (Degen p. 35).

Some things to remember when writing to show:

* Use strong verbs; avoid “to be” verbs.
* Think action and the character’s response to that action.
* Don’t just add adjectives and adverbs.

Review Writing to Show pp. 34-35 in your writing book (*Crafting Expository Argument* by Michael Degen). Look in your writing folder at last year’s assignment “He/She is scared.” Or read the example showing someone is afraid on page 38.

**Practice Time!**

For each telling sentence, write 2-3 sentences that show that action.

1. He/she is nervous. (you may not use the word “nervous”)

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1. He/she is brave. (you may not use the word “brave”)

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1. He/she is angry. (you may not use the word “angry”)

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