

WRITING A RECOUNT

WORKSHEET 2: USING WRITERS' TRICKS

There are a number of tricks used by writers to enhance their writing. The lesson mentioned four of them:

- (1) **Diving in** - starting in the middle of the recount, to create interest, then going back to the beginning
- (2) **Drama** - bringing out the conflict and excitement of the topic
- (3) **Dialogue** - quoting what people said during the incident
- (4) **Detail** - using description to bring the subject to life.

Let's practise those techniques now.

ACTIVITY 1

- (1) Take the recount you completed for Worksheet 1, and analyse it carefully to see if (a) you **structured it** interestingly, (b) you brought out the **drama** or conflict, (c) you used **dialogue**, and (d) you used **description**, so that the reader could visualise it.
- (2) Rewrite it to add in at least two of the writers' tricks. Drama and dialogue are the best value for money - they will always enliven any piece of writing.

You will find it useful to read your new piece to a partner, hopefully the same one as for Worksheet 1, and get their opinion about the improvements you've made.

ACTIVITY 2

Ending a recount well: Take the same piece and find some way to finish it. The lesson gives you four suggestions - what you learnt from the incident, how it changed you, what "moral" you took from it or perhaps a quote.

Change your recount one last time, to add in the ending.

Read out samples to the class.