

Dr. Vic begins today's class with an admit slip.

Have you ever seen rocks pray? What details do you see in this image?

Readers read the lines (literal). Readers read between the lines (inferencing). Readers read beyond the lines (elaborating).

Meridith and Robin share the class log from June 9, 2006.

Wow! I learned so much from Lester Laminack's workshop. He said I need to become a writer and show my students that I value writing as an important part of my life.

Absolutely! I learned to think of my writer's notebook as a treasure box. A place to gather my thoughts and collect my ideas.

Carol Jackson shares the morning writing prompt.

Write a letter to anyone about any topic of your choosing. Letter writing can be a powerful and emotional tool to break through writer's block.

We need some Kleenex!

Dr. Vic discusses the importance of intentionality in writing.

When you write intentionally, you focus on a specific aspect, such as meaning, grammar, punctuation, etc.

Can we do it well all at once? That's what we are asking our students to do when we ask them to write on demand.

Dr. Vic examines two leading theorists views on learning: Cambourne and Vygotsky.

One way learning is achieved is through immersion.

We learn in bursts. As educators we must scaffold our students through the process of learning.

Dr. Vic teaches a mini-lesson on "The Shape of Language: Scaffolding Adolescents into Free Verse Poetry."

Each of us has an inner poet. Free verse allows the writer freedom to create her own rules. What shapes do you see within writing? Name it. When you name it, you own it!



Dear Friends,

When Dr. Vic cracked open peer editing into SEMANTIC editing and CONVENTIONS editing, I thought immediately of ways I could use this in my classroom. I wonder if you did, too. There are so many ideas that burst into my brain as the day goes by that often I find myself jotting "Notes to Self" in my writers notebook so I won't forget them. It was with sad recognition that I nodded when Lester urged us to write things down. "You think you'll remember he admonished us," but you won't." He is right.

What a creative challenge we had bringing our 94-year-old grandmother to life on her birthday by re-shaping words. What power there is in the shape of the written word. I wish I had seen yours; I know it would have blown me away. It's time to take off my training wheels and fly now. Enjoy today. Fondly, Carol