

Contents

Acknowledgements **vii**

Introduction **1**

Introduction to the Second Edition	1
Why Incorporate Technology Into the Creative Process	2
Why Teach Creative Writing?	4
How This Book Is Organized	5
Instructional Themes	7
Story Showing vs. Story Telling	7
Details Make a Difference	8
The Red Pencil Is a Writer's Best Friend	9
Teacher Goals	10
Grading, Correcting, and Story Requirements	11
How to Use This Unit	12
Writing the Personal Narrative	13
Overview of Blocks	14

Chapter 1: Discussing the Basics **17**

Mini-lessons:

A Look at the Whole Picture	26
The Three Story Elements	28
Muscle Up Your Words	31
Details Make a Difference	33
Details Make a Difference Technology Connection	35
Genres	38
The Red Pencil Is Your Best Friend	40
The Red Pencil Is Your Best Friend Technology Connection	44
Background Research	46
Whose Point Is It Anyway?	48
Whose Point Is It Anyway? Technology Connection	50
Thematically Speaking	52
Hints and Reviews	53

Chapter 2: Creating a Character 57

Mini-lessons:

- Getting to Know You—The Author 58
- Show, Don't Tell Your Character 59
- Show, Don't Tell Your Character Technology Connection 63
- Show, Don't Tell Your Character (2) Technology Connection 65
- Create a Character Information Bank 67
- Create a Character Information Bank Technology Connection 74
- You're Going to Name Him What? 76
- Meet the Bad Guy 79
- Dialogue 82
- Dialogue Technology Connection 84

Chapter 3: Setting the Scene 91

Mini-lessons:

- Sharpen Your Senses 92
- Sharpen Your Senses Technology Connection 93
- Sharpen Your Senses (2) Technology Connection 95
- Show, Don't Tell Your Setting 97
- Create a Setting Information Bank 101
- Create a Setting Information Bank Technology Connection 105
- Create a Mood 107
- Create a Mood Technology Connection 110
- Open Strong 112
- Open Strong Technology Connection 116

Chapter 4: Developing the Plot 119

Mini-lessons:

- Show, Don't Tell Your Character's Problem 120
- Plan-a-Problem 123
- Plan-a-Problem Technology Connection 130
- Build-a-Plot 132
- Maxing the Middle 137
- Plot Props 139
- Boy, It's Tense in Here! 141

Chapter 5: Writing the First Draft 143

Mini-lessons:

Put It All Together 145

Make the Transition 147

Write a Short Story—Not a Novel 149

Write a Short Story—Not a Novel Technology Connection 151

Get Unstuck 153

Your Title Here 155

“The End” 156

Chapter 6: Editing and Revising 159

Mini-lessons:

Self-Critique 163

Self-Critique Technology Connection 165

Peer Editing 167

After “The End” 175

Resources 179

Literature Models 180

Resource CD Contents 181