

Instead of prescriptively
telling students what
to do as writers . . .

Show them a
mentor text . . .

That will allow you to
describe precisely what
writers do.

"Write an introduction that hooks
your readers."



"Evelyn Del Rey is my mejor amiga,
my número uno best friend."
(From *Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving
Away*, by Meg Medina)



"There are lots of ways to begin
stories, and Meg Medina uses a
really powerful one in *Evelyn Del
Rey Is Moving Away*. She starts
by giving readers an important
background detail—that Evelyn
is the best friend of the narrator,
Daniela. By revealing this detail
at the very beginning of the story,
Meg Medina helps us understand
immediately how big a deal it is
that Evelyn is moving away."

"Add lots of detail to your writing."



"Lurking below the water's surface,
a croc lies in wait for its prey.
When an unsuspecting animal
passes by, the 1,000-pound beast
explodes out of the water, grabs
its victim, and drags it under the
water to drown. Yikes!" (From
Deadliest Animals, by Melissa
Stewart)



"In this section, Melissa Stewart
elaborates by writing several
action facts—in this case, things
that crocodiles do with their
bodies. We learn what crocodiles
do with their whole bodies—'the
1,000-pound beast explodes out of
the water'—and also a part of its
body, its claws—'grabs its victim'
and 'drags it under the water to
drown.'"