

MODES OF WRITING:

Descriptive Writing: Creates a vivid picture in the readers mind and may describe a person, place, event, or thing. The reader feels that they are present or that the writer has invited them into his/her experience. Descriptive writing is used within other genres of writing:

- Usually uses the sensory details, the goal of which is to allow the reader to see, feel, hear, taste, smell what the writer is describing
- Details extend beyond the obvious.
- In a technical piece—descriptive writing creates a visual image which helps the reader understand a process
- Used to create: Menus, cookbooks, poems, catalogs, travel brochures technical manuals
- Purpose: to describe
- The writer should:
 - Include vivid details
 - Use show not tell language
 - Consider the use of figurative language (simile, metaphor, analogy)
- Trait focus: word choice and ideas

Narrative Writing: Tells a story that may be based on a real experience or one that is created in the writers mind. It may be fiction or nonfiction.

- Usually has a plot, setting, character, tension
- Events are disclosed in a sequential order
- Nonfiction = biography, historical events, informational
- Novels, newspapers, narrative picture books, poetry, personal essay, folk tales, tall tales, plays, diaries, biographies, histories
- Narrative writing may be found within both persuasive and expository genres
- Show not tell language is employed
- Purpose: to tell
- The writer should:
 - Establish a main idea
 - Organize sequentially
 - Use vivid details to describe both the setting and characters
- Trait focus: organization, ideas