

6-Traits of Writing: Organization

Leads, Leads, Leads

1. Newborn sharks are not cared for by their parents-and often, in fact, are eaten alive by one parent or the other.
2. Did you know that you loose your sense of smell when you are asleep?
3. Steve Bluestone once said, "Did you ever notice when you blow in a dog's face he gets mad at you? But when you take him in a car he sticks his head out the window?"
4. I once ate 16 pancakes in one sitting.
5. Most fire deaths occur in the home when people are asleep – between midnight and 6:00 a.m.
6. Four out of five dog owners who think they're protecting their dogs are actually killing them by giving them the wrong food.
7. There are dogs out there slowly losing their sight. Dogs with hair coming out in handfuls. Young dogs unable to jump on her owner's lap. Dogs everywhere slowly dying because owners didn't understand they were killing them with kindness.
8. "Ouch!" said the girl.
"Why are you biting your own finger?" said the boy.

Ways to End – Closings and Conclusions

1. Suggest a conclusion you hope your reader drew.
2. Tell something you learned about the world/yourself.
3. Tell one thing you'll always remember.
4. Tell something that surprised, startled, disappointed, or pleased you.
5. Raise a new, related question.
6. Surprise the reader.
7. End with a scene or comment that suggests "more to come."
8. End with a quotation or dialogue that connects to main message.
9. Sum up- IF you can do it without being redundant.