



Helping Students Write with Voice Planning Guide

Steps for Scripting Text into Reader's Theater format	How might I adapt this for my classroom?	What materials/books might I use?
<p>Modeling the Strategy. This involves a read-aloud using children's literature that exemplifies strong voice. The teacher points out how the author is having characters speak or act in certain ways, and also connects that idea to student's lives by asking them how different students might react to certain situations in distinctive ways. Then, as a class, the teacher leads the students in converting the literature into a Reader's Theatre script through discussion and think-alouds (depending on the length of the text, you may convert the entire story or only one part). Students must figure out what parts are needed, how they will handle narration, any additions/deletions to the story they want to make, and the creation of the script, which will be performed at the end of the lesson(s). For larger classes, multiple texts can be scripted at once.</p>		

<p>Working towards Independence. Students work in pairs or small groups to practice scripting. It's important to make sure they have stories that are easily scripted, at least early on, and the teacher needs to be actively involved in "coach[ing] and monitor[ing] the groups." The peer groups can be especially important in identifying key dialogue.</p>		
<p>Independence. Students begin to script on their own.</p>		