

Activity 4: Show-not-tell practice

This is a great tool to use not only for suspense but for characterisation. We don't just want to **TELL** the reader how the character is feeling. We want to **SHOW** them by what is happening to their body, how they are talking, how they are moving or how they treat people.

For example:

Telling

Joe was scared.

Showing

Joe froze.

The hair on the back of his neck stood up.

Joe's heart raced

★ Now it's your turn! I want you to change the telling emotions to showing. You could act out the emotions yourself or think of a time when you felt like that. What was happening to your body? Voice? Breathing?

★ Try and write 2 or 3 idea down under showing – you might be able to use this in your writing later on.

Telling

Zara was sad.

Showing



Jonah felt shy.



Tom was angry.



He was frightened.



Remi was nervous.


