Teaching Writing Better



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Scavenger Hunt

Use Fun To Your Advantage

This three-minute writing begins with your listing several terms or concepts on the board at the beginning of each period. Ask students to listen for the terms and write a sentence about each as it arises during the period. Calling this activity a scavenger hunt makes it more fun, even for college-aged students!

Students who write a sentence about each item can earn a star or prize (depending on the age of your students) or can simply keep their "scavenger hunt" pages as study guides.

Reinforce Students' Learning

To reinforce students' learning, save two or three minutes at the end of class for students to review and revise their sentences, which they can share with you or not, depending on whether you want to use this activity to gauge their understanding.

Quick Caveat

This activity requires your knowing in advance what material you'll cover during the period, at least in broad terms, and flagging a few of those items in advance, but it engages students throughout the period.