

Adding Voice to Your Writing Worksheet

What is Voice in Nonfiction Writing?

Voice is what makes your writing unique and interesting to read. It's the personality and style that shines through your words. Even when writing about facts, adding voice can help you connect with your readers and make your work stand out.

Here are three ways to add voice to your writing:

- **Use descriptive language:** Help your reader imagine the topic with vivid details.
- **Ask rhetorical questions:** Spark curiosity and invite the reader to think.
- **Share personal reflections:** Make your writing relatable by adding your thoughts or reactions.

Your Task

Below are three paragraphs that contain factual information but lack voice. Rewrite each paragraph to make it more engaging, using the techniques above. Be creative and try to bring the topic to life for your reader!

Paragraph 1: Without Voice

"Beavers are important to Canada's identity. They are known for building dams in rivers and streams, which creates wetland habitats. The beaver has been a national symbol of Canada since the 17th century."

Your Rewrite: (Add descriptive language, a rhetorical question, or personal reflection to make it more engaging.)

Paragraph 2: Without Voice

"Canada's national flag was adopted in 1965. The design features a red maple leaf in the center, with two red bars on each side. The flag is a symbol of unity and pride for Canadians."

Your Rewrite: (Make this paragraph more interesting by adding vivid details, a question, or your own perspective.)

Paragraph 3: Without Voice

"Poutine is a popular dish in Canada. It is made with fries, cheese curds, and gravy. Poutine is often served in restaurants, diners, and festivals across the country."

Your Rewrite: (Bring this paragraph to life by using one or more techniques for adding voice.)

Reflection

After rewriting the paragraphs, reflect on the changes you made:

1. Which technique (descriptive language, rhetorical questions, or personal reflections) did you enjoy using the most? Why?
2. How do you think adding voice improves nonfiction writing?
3. What is one thing you will try to do when adding voice to your Heritage Fair project?