

## Mini Lesson: Organize in Sequence...

Serravallo, Jennifer. *The Writing Strategies Book: Your Everything Guide to Developing Skilled Writers*. 2015. Print.

[VDOE SOL](#): 7.7 c,d pg 157 | 8.7 c,d

When writers are thinking about the topic for their story, they may start to plan it out in their notebooks or with a graphic organizer. If we make sure our events are in chronological, or time order, we can ensure that our story will flow and make sense. Once we have this order, then we can start our draft.

One way to do this is...

- 1) Consider your noteworthy topic from yesterday. Decide the order of events you want to include.
- 2) Make a list of what happens first, next, etc.
- 3) Use transition words to help you find order like first, then, next, after that, finally.
- 4) Now you're ready to draft!

Look at some example here:

**My Topic:** *Trying to put my pants on backward.*

- (1) *First I woke up really tired.*
- (2) *I hit the snooze on my alarm clock three times.*
- (3) *I saw my clock say 6:00am and I knew I had to get up.*
- (4) *I didn't want to turn on the lights because it was too bright.*
- (5) *Then I grabbed my clothes to start to get dressed.*
- (6) *I put my feet in and pulled them all the way up.*
- (7) *After that I could tell things felt weird.*
- (8) *I tried to button them but couldn't find the button.*
- (9) *My lower back was cold and I wondered why.*
- (10) *I reached around and felt the button on the back side of my pants.*
- (11) *I nearly fell over turning them around and getting them on correctly.*
- (12) *Finally, I went downstairs to get coffee.*

*My alarm is set for 4:45 every morning. It is not a happy time. The sun is not yet up and I have yet to wake up perky and ready for the day. This morning in particular, however, was about to pose it's own unique challenges...*

Now it's your turn to try...

In your notebook, start to make a list of all of the events that lead up to the noteworthy moment you captured yesterday. What details do you want to include? What order should they go in? Once they are in the right order, try adding some transition words and start your draft.

Today and every day that you are writing you can use small moments from your day or night to inspire and inform what you share.