



Tips for Teacher Conference with Student

1. *Begin the conference with a positive statement.*
2. *Ask open-ended questions such as the following:*
 - a. *What is your writing about?*
 - b. *Why did you choose this topic?*
 - c. *What genre did you use?*
 - d. *How is this piece different from others you've written?*
 - e. *What do you think you did well as you wrote this piece?*
 - f. *Which traits of writing did you use?*
 - g. *Which of my comments were the most helpful?*
 - h. *Which of your peer's comments were the most helpful?*
 - i. *What new editing tool did you use as you wrote this piece?*
3. *Teach only 1-2 literary tools per conference.*
 - a. *Strong lead*
 - b. *Sequencing of events or steps*
 - c. *Dialogue*
 - d. *Transitions*
4. *Record what was worked on in conference (Have student write comments on his/her draft and date them. You write comments on your conference form.)*
5. *Always use literary terms, such as voice, similes, leads, examples, details, etc.*
6. *Encourage students to use their graphic organizers to help them organize their writing logically.*
7. *Have them focus on 1-2 Traits of Good Writing at a time, but only after you have demonstrated these in a mini-lesson.*