

One Thousand Snapshots – descriptive writing example of **showing** emotion rather than **telling**

**TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH
One Thousand Snapshots TEACHING NOTES ONLY**

Descriptive writing uses many sensory details that paint a picture and appeals to the reader's senses of sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste. **Descriptive writing** may also paint pictures of the emotions.

MADDY IS FURIOUS – DRAFT (from chapter 6)

At quarter time the scores were level. 3 goals 4 each.

The second quarter was a bit tougher. The Dune Buggies got the best of us. At the toss-up, after they got the last goal of the quarter the captain of the Dunes said, 'You play like a girl.'

I was furious. 'Well, if you practised more and improved your skills you could play as good as a girl too.'

'Whatever,' He said.

'Irrespective,' I shot back.

He gave me a strange look.

The siren did its thing for half time.

TELL

This edited section of the book demonstrates more descriptive writing used. "I was furious" (Tell) changed to "Every muscle in my body tightened" and "I have venom in my voice." (SHOW)

DAD GETS ANGRY – AFTER EDITING

At quarter time, the scores are level, 3.4 (22) each.

The second quarter is a bit tougher. The Dune Buggies get the best of us. At the toss-up, after they get the last goal of the quarter, the captain of the Dunes says, 'You play like a girl.'

Every muscle in my body tightens. No way am I going to let him get away with trying to insult me.

I have venom in my voice. 'Well, don't be too hard on yourself. If you practised more and improved your skills, you might be able to play as good as a girl too.'

'Whatever,' he says.

'Irrespective,' I shoot back.

He gives me a strange look.

The siren does its thing for halftime.

SHOW