

# What Sub-Skills Make Up Idea Development?

**Discussion questions for groups of teachers:** Of the following idea development sub-skills, for which do you currently have lessons? What would lessons look like if they focused a student on just one of these sub-topics? What are other idea development sub-topics that might be listed here to make the list more complete for you?

\_\_\_\_\_ choosing interesting, high-quality details to write with when:

\_\_\_\_\_ describing important characters or people

\_\_\_\_\_ describing important settings or places

\_\_\_\_\_ describing important objects or things

\_\_\_\_\_ using action words to enhance written descriptions

\_\_\_\_\_ using a thoughtful balance of showing and telling skills

\_\_\_\_\_ or...transforming "telling sentences" into "showing sentences"

\_\_\_\_\_ selecting a unique topic to write about

\_\_\_\_\_ using a unique approach/technique to explore a topic

\_\_\_\_\_ putting others' ideas into your own words

\_\_\_\_\_ writing with a clear, central big idea or theme in mind

\_\_\_\_\_ supporting big idea or theme with sub-ideas or sub-topics

\_\_\_\_\_ the most interesting sub-topics are purposefully included

\_\_\_\_\_ or...?

The WritingFix website has free lessons and resources for most of these trait sub-skills. The goal of the WritingFix website is to eventually have dozens of lessons on each sub-skill above.

