

Show, Don't Tell

When you write about yourself, *show*—don't *tell*—how you feel.

No I was nervous.

Yes My voice croaked, and my knees trembled.

Directions Use words from the box or your own words to replace the words in () in sentences 1–4. Then write a final sentence that shows your feelings.

packed with tents and food
chattered and cheered
shimmered like glass
jumped out of bed

(1) I (woke up excited) **jumped out of bed**

_____ . It was the first day at Camp Kanaho. (2) The

lake (looked pretty) **shimmered like glass**

(3) The kids (were noisy) **chattered and cheered**

(4) Canoes were (ready) **packed with tents and food**

(5) **Possible answer: I was so excited about the canoe trip that I could hardly breathe.**

Directions Imagine that you are in a strange place, such as a jungle, attic, or cave. Describe what you see, feel, hear, touch, and smell. **Possible answer:**

Everywhere I look, I see green plants. Playful screams from birds and monkeys fill the humid air.