Choices for Elaborating in Narrative Writing

When the writer wants	Your feedback might include
The main character to come alive to the reader	Making them talk by using dialogue
	Sharing their inner thinking
	Describing small gestures or facial expressions
	Having another character react to the main character
	Including a memory (i.e., flashback)
	Making them struggle with a problem; showing that struggle in their thoughts and words
The setting to be crystal-clear	Describing the setting throughout the story, especially when the setting changes
	Including what the characters hear, smell, and see
	Having your character react to the setting ("what a lovely day at the beach," she thought)
	Including the setting in the character's actions ("she pushed her toes into the sand")
The bigger lesson or theme to emerge	Having the character act out of character and learn something big
	Having the character say out loud or to themselves what he or she learned
	Being the omniscient narrator, describing the lessons that were learned
	Having one character teach another character in their words and actions
	Using a symbol to reflect the learning, like the clouds parting and sun shining through

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