

Finding their Voice: writing activities to encourage thinking, experimentation, and transformation

The best writers aren't scared to make mistakes, nor do they feel confined by expected structures and language features. Rather the opposite. But the concept of there being no 'right' answer in a written response can be terrifying for students who are battling against the pressure to write for the assessor. This session will explore ways you can encourage your students to get it wrong, go too far, make a mess, and be imperfect when writing. By promoting and encouraging risk-taking behaviour when drafting we can experiment with ways for students to find their voice, build confidence to put pen to paper, and recognise the difference between needing to answer the criteria but not be predictable or formulaic in doing so. Be prepared to unpack how we learn to write as you put pen to paper and walk away with a plethora of low-stakes and revision-focused activities you can use for any year level or writing task.