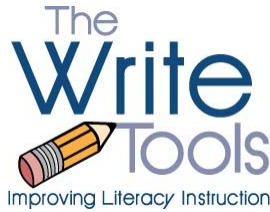


**From:** The Write Tools <training@thewritetools.net>

**Subject:** "Move" your student's writing to the next level.

**Reply:** training@thewritetools.net



## Try These Personal Narrative Writing "Movers"

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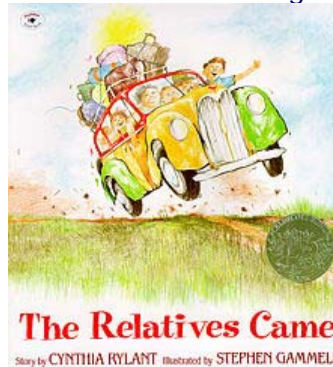
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You may never have consciously noticed how authors move their personal narrative along as they tell a story. They unobtrusively move the reader from time to time or place to place with words and phrases we call movers. These not only move the writing along, they also help the reader stay on track. It is impossible to make a complete list of movers, because they are so specific to each incident or event. However, here are some examples you might list on a classroom chart:

<b>Time to Time Movers</b>	<b>Place to Place Movers</b>
the next day	in the attic
afterwards	at the top of the hill
several hours later	at my mom's house
that afternoon	when we got in the car
the following morning	outside on the porch
at sunrise	in the middle of the forest
at the stroke of midnight	out on the playground

Help students learn to recognize these movers in short, read-aloud books. Give each student an index card with the word "mover" written on it. Then read aloud a favorite narrative to them--a good one is [The Relatives Came](#), by



Cynthia Rylant. Have the students listen to the story, and each time they think they hear a "mover," they can hold up their index card. Stop and discuss the various movers the kids hear--are they moving the action in the story from "time to time" or "place to place?" As students hear good examples, begin to add new phrases to your class chart. Keep this chart posted so students can refer to it as they

are writing their own personal narratives.

If you want a full day of Personal Narrative Writing training for your school, call us at 303-221-5301.

**Sincerely,**  
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