**Sketching the Short Story** (lead into revising the exposition)

Suggested Journal entry - *Read the quotation by Kurt Vonnegut. Connect his thought to writing. “I want to stay as close to the edge as I can without going over. Out on the edge you can see all kinds of things you can’t see from the center.”*

Show students the video or PowerPoint of Kurt Vonnegut’s theory of how to write a short story and the video of how to shape a short story.

* How to Write a Short Story (video and ppt version) – 1:36 minutes long
* Shape of a Short Story (video only) – 4:36 minutes long

Review Freytag’s Pyramid (plot structure – exposition, inciting incident, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution). Have students to completely plot out their stories using at least 2 significant events in the rising action section. Give for homework, if necessary.

**Revising the Exposition** (after the exposition has been turned in, graded, and returned)

Review a current piece of work (for example, Lord of the Flies by William Golding). Brainstorm the author’s style in the exposition (for example, Golding’s style in the first 3 chapters of Lord of the Flies).

Hand back the exposition students wrote. Have the students to reread their writing. On a post-it note, list 1 positive and 1 point of growth (not grammar related).

On their writing, have them write out what style of the examined writer will they model (for example, Golding’s creation of mood with figurative language, adjectives, etc. as in Chpt. 3; breaking up the events to describe the setting in detail; and formulating the dialogue of the children to meet their personalities such as short nervous statements from timid Piggy or definitive abrupt statements from matter-of- fact Ralph).

If time allows, have students actually begin reformulating their exposition based upon their chosen style they are borrowing from the reviewed work. Continue for homework. Make due in next couple of days to allow for individual thinking time, a better writing environment. Post to Turnitin.com for plagiarism check.