

WRITING JUMP STARTS



FICTION

- Change the location of your scene. (Busy? Isolated? Dangerous?)
- Add or remove a character from the scene to make it more tense.
- Someone gets bad news (big or small). Might seem good, at first.
- Change the point of view to a different character's.
- Break off from this scene and move on to the next.
- Make the surroundings inconvenient or even threatening.
- Force your character to choose between two different loyalties.
- Hurt your character (physically or emotionally).
- Let the antagonist win some kind of victory.
- Have your character do something counterproductive.
- Uncover part of a secret ... but not the whole truth.

NONFICTION

- Imagine you're writing an email to a friend.
- Put more emotion into your writing. Happy? Angry? Heartfelt?
- Answer a commonly-asked question about your topic.
- Include a quote that you agree (or disagree) with. Explain why.
- Focus on the one thing that you want your readers to remember.
- Come up with a helpful analogy to get your point across.
- Split your chapter or blog post into two or more separate ones.
- Ask your readers a question (rhetorical or not).
- Picture your reader's situation. Show that you understand.
- Create a list of helpful tips related to your topic.
- Draw a mindmap to help you gather and connect ideas.

NOTES